

THE LITERARY GAZETTE

AND

Journal of the Belles Lettres, Arts, Sciences,

No. 1329.

LONDON, SATURDAY, JULY 9, 1842.

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REVIEWS OF NEW BOOKS.

The Factory System Illustrated. By Wm. Dodd, a Factory Cripple. Pp. 264. J. Murray.
Horrible Prostitution and Murder of Females and Children, &c. employed in Mines and Collieries. Pp. 90. W. Strange.

Address to the Queen. By Robt. Gale. Pp. 32.
THE first suggestion we have to offer on the subjects connected with these publications, and the Report of the Commissioners on Collieries, &c., is to express our opinion, that a public subscription should be forthwith opened for the erection of a statue of Lord Ashley, in gratitude for his long-continued, benevolent, and Christian exertions, on behalf of his fellow-creatures whom custom and the demands of trade had doomed to labour more than should be sufficient to gain their bread by the sweat of their brows, and to privations greater than any human beings should endure in a condition of civilised society. A statue of Lord Ashley, whilst he yet bears the title to which he has done so much honour, seems to us most desirable; though we may pray that the useful life of his excellent father may be preserved for many years yet to come, ere he exchange it for another. When we look at the hundreds of individuals who have been thus distinguished by national sympathy and admiration, we confess we are surprised that the tribute has not been offered to this young nobleman, who has so gloriously separated himself from the pleasures and amusements of his order, to devote all his energies to the benefit of his fellow-creatures. With all the temptations of rank to seduce him from a path at once so toilsome and thorny, he has displayed the spirit and perseverance of another Howard, and produced an amount of good which is to be calculated in the happiness of tens of living thousands and generations yet unborn.

It is with genuine feelings of esteem, approaching to enthusiasm, and inspired by the whole public career of this eminent individual, that we venture to throw out the idea, to which we hope general attention will be attracted, and some one of sufficient influence be induced to take it up, and carry it into effect. And whilst we do so, we beg to add, that we are the creature of no morbid humanities and sentimental philanthropy, embracing spheres, or exaggerating proximate and immediate evils. But we are convinced that the world would be much happier, if men did and desired good to their fellow-men half as much as they oppress and wrong them; and that it is well when an Ashley steps out from the mass to allure us to the amended prospect, and to point the way. Power is but too apt to harden the heart, and degenerate into selfishness; and it is impossible to look around us, and not perceive that the enjoyments of the human race have not increased in the ratio of civilisation.

But enough of poem, especially as we have little to say on the publications at the head of this notice. The work in furtherance of which they have appeared has been nearly done without our co-operation; and our unimportant task is but to applaud the doing, and wish success to the improvement. In these times

of apathy, it may perhaps be necessary to get up excitement by such expedients as the disgusting cuts of naked men, women, and children in every shape of indecent exposure; but to our minds it would have been better, and more rational, to have addressed the sense of the public, and not its passions, which can be stirred by such means equally in a bad as in a good cause. All violent outcries are apt to lead us too far, and beyond the necessities of the case. Certain we are that women and young children ought to be protected by law from labours unfit for their sex and age; but, at the same time, care should be taken, and provision made, that when we deprive numbers of an habitual employment, we do not drive the former into prostitution, and the latter into theft, or both into starvation. Feeling needs the regulation of wisdom to keep it from extremes, and Providence is called on to forsee, that in saving from one ill we do not plunge into another. Being entirely on the side of a thorough reformation in mines and collieries as affects the two classes to which we have alluded—women and children of tender age,—we confess that we think too much fuss has been made about the scanty dress of the females. Usage deprives such accidents of the effects imputed; and if not a fashionable ball-room, at any rate the Opera stage, might furnish the moralist with quite as startling topics for descent and reprobation.

Yet it is well that many of the harsh, iniquitous, and degrading customs which have prevailed in these dreary workings should now be abolished, and a healthier state of things be introduced; that the utmost industry should be made consistent with instruction to the young and decency to all; that the weak should be relieved and the helpless be protected. Throughout the land, hive-like as it is, a far superior order of living may be accomplished, were proper attention paid to the ways, and wants, and means of the poor, and farther to the direction and restoration of those whom bad example or misery have driven into the commission of crime. According to our existing social system, the former are thrown into masses, which it is impossible effectually to assist; and the latter, once dipped in guilt, are so left to the force of circumstances that it is next to a miracle to redeem them. Savings' banks in towns, and plots of ground for spade-husbandry in the country, industrial schools, and the kind sympathies of a common nature, would greatly alter the features of the land and its people. Let these, then, be encouraged and cherished, instead of the rivalry of important classes, such as the manufacturing against the agricultural, and the individual and distributive grinding of the multitude destined to subsist on daily labour. We cannot, it is true, make a paradise of this earth; but it lies within ourselves to soften much of its ruggedness, and vastly to increase its enjoyments. The golden rule—practice only the golden rule. Imitate Lord Ashley.

The Old River: or, the Chronicle of the Rhine. By Captain Knox, Author of "Hardness," "Softness," &c. 12mo, pp. 282. London, John Oliver.

This is a very lively and pleasant volume; and the more acceptable just now, as we have all the solidity and solemnity of science to occupy us. It is true that some of Captain Knox's legends are familiar to all readers; but even where he has least of novelty in matter, he has so much vivacity in manner, and illustrates his ancient lore with so many modern instances, that we enter quite into the spirit of his narrations, and feel no ennui, though we knew the details and the *dénouements* before. There are twenty tales located about Cologne and Mayence, at Bonn, the Drachenfels, Boppard, St. Goar, Bingen, Rüdesheim, &c.—the latter a place where the wine is tolerably good; and there are some lithographic prints of the scenery where these supernatural incidents are recorded. Before we copy one of the legends—an amusing miracle, and fair specimen of the rest—we shall beg leave to quote a few passages as evidence of the talent which we have allowed to these pages. Speaking of a Christian knight's imprisonment during the crusades in the Holy Land, our author makes the following fine comparison relative to the Jewish people:

"There was nothing in the dreary landscape he gazed on to solace a wounded spirit. On one side a mountain of solid rock reared its flat table-summit to the clouds, and on the other the brown dusty undulations of the stony ground, with here and there a scattered wild olive or a few vines—now run wild and clinging to ruins, as if, like the nation that planted them, still looked forward through adversity and neglect to the appointed time that is to gather the dispersed of Judah from the four corners of the earth,—died away in the distant horizon."

There is a playful opening of another tale, called, "The Biter bit:"—

"The devil (I always call a spade a spade) was uncommonly busy in Germany in the eleventh century. I ought to have said 'in person,' as the natives of that country scrupulously put upon their voluminous visiting-cards; for nobody doubts but that he is at least as busy now, both there and elsewhere, though in a somewhat different form, rejoicing at present in dispensing with a tangible shape, and appearing under the denomination of a principle, such as voluntary principle, democratic principle, revolutionary principle, and so forth. What I mean is, that at that period he used to take great pleasure in going about the earth seeking whom he might devour; and, above all, a favourite lounge of his is supposed to have been the neighbourhood of the Rhine, where he used to spend most of his time, which in that district was fully occupied. Perhaps that was the reason he selected that locality; for being a great personage, he was dreadfully afflicted with ennui, and wanted excitement, or possibly he might have gone on the system of quartering on the enemy; for the ground there was covered as thick as it could hold with convents, nunneries, monasteries, abbeys,

of all kinds and de-
the cell of the solitary
and fortified palace of
who made war on kings,
were, served admirably
the soil at that time was
or indirectly, in the hands
influence of the Church, and the
of the neighbourhood were
the three ecclesiastical electors. But it is not
to be supposed that whilst his infernal majesty
was occupied in taking his pleasure in this
fashion, he ever for a moment failed to have
an eye to business. Whenever any apparently
impossible object was to be attained, or any
foul crime to be executed in darkness,—and
such there were in those days in terrible num-
bers,—he was ever at hand, and seldom forgot to
put in a tender for the contract. He was no
respector of persons—rich or poor, knight or
serf, prince or peasant, all was fish that came
to his net; no job was too small for him to
undertake, none too large for him to execute.
His terms, which were of a reversionary char-
acter, were the same for all services, and
being somewhat startling in their nature, were
hardly admissible in ordinary cases, if stated
broadly and fairly; and he consequently used
generally to find it expedient to put them in a
roundabout and mystifying sort of shape, that
partly concealed their real tendency, and partly
flattered the other party with a hope of finding
some loophole of escape when it became their
turn to fulfil their part of the agreement. It
is a thousand pities that he does not give an
eminent lawyer of our times an opportunity of
trying if he can drive a coach and six through
such a compact, as he alleges he can through
any act of parliament.”

Another example, of a similar kind:—

“The Loreley was not the only privileged
person that exercised the sort of summary
jurisdiction, described in the last tale, on the
waters of the Rhine. There may yet be seen
in Rüdesheim the now dried and blackened
bones of a fisherman, who many hundred years
ago thought himself uncommonly clever in
trying to cheat St. Nicholas,—whose chapel was
the great miracle-warehouse in Rüdesheim—
out of a safe passage down the Binger-loch,
and discovered, like many other very clever
people, just when it was too late, that honesty
is the best policy after all. The eddies of that
narrow gorge were then most formidable ene-
mies to the rude fishermen who navigated the
Rhine; and though steam has since risen in
parricidal insurrection against its ancient pa-
rent, and well-nigh vanquished it, and the
terrors of the Binger-loch have departed to
keep company with the fears of witches, and
the dread of the evil-eye,—yet in those days a
safe passage down its rock-bound rapid was
considered by no means a certainty, and was
highly esteemed, especially if it could be had
without prepayment as Hans had, and still
more highly if it could be had without pay-
ment at all, as he flattered himself he should
have it.”

He endeavours to cheat the saint, and is
made an example of for his pains; and so re-
mains to the present hour, as any body may
see on going to Rüdesheim. At Nonnenwerth
we have a sportive introduction of our own
country-folks as contrasted with the olden
times; for—

“Never was the bathos more complete or
more provoking than within the doomed walls
of Nonnenwerth. The solemn bell that tolled
with a mournful peal, as for the glories that
are departed, as the last of this long line of

holy women descended into the dust from which
she sprang,—when next it sounded, clattered
out with a horrible alacrity, to announce to the
hungry tourists that the *table-d'hôte* was ready;
for the depraved speculation of an innkeeper
had converted Nonnenwerth into an hotel, and
every passing steamer contributes its quota of
pollution to the sacred soil of the island. Where
is the army of saints that of yore used to watch
over the river? Why comes not St. Rita of
Coblentz, tripping lightly over the sustaining
waves, as was her wont, to rebuke the profane
intruders? St. Goar, why rises he not from
his repose, to wrap the island in the preter-
natural darkness that vanquished even the
mighty son of Pepin? Where is now St. Ger-
trude, who feared not to encounter the father
of evil himself, and returned victorious, why
shrinks she from the contest with his monkey
followers? Has St. Nicholas of Rüdesheim
indulged in too potent draughts of the Hinter-
häuser, that he gives not the body of the un-
feeling host to the hungry fishes? or if these
holy characters have grown luxurious, and will
not be disturbed from their canonical repose,
where slumbers the lady of the waters, the fair
and fatal Loreley? why is she not here, with her
angry might and her terrible sway over the ele-
ments, to vindicate the romantic honour of the
river? See, and shudder, Old Father Rhine,
in the very midst of thine

‘Exulting and abounding river,
Making thy waves a blessing as they flow
Through banks whose beauty would endure for ever,
Could man but leave thy bright creation so.’

‘*Latet anguis in herba*; there is a tea-table on
the lawn, and a hideous levity reigns all around.
Here, a swaggering party of long-haired and
long-piped students from Bonn display their
uncouth taste and barbarous self-importance
over their potations. Look at those swarthy
faces beyond them; behold the black eyes of a
family of the children of Israel from Frankfurt
twinkling in unchristian glee. Anon the hor-
rified eye lights on the be-chained, and be-
ringed, and be-waistcoated, and be-frogged,
and be-snuffed persons of a group of French
chevaliers d'industrie, who, driven forth from
Paris by the recent closing of the gambling-
houses, have crossed the frontiers in shoals,
like ravening wolves, to seek their prey among
the simple-minded sons of Germany. See that
painted and snorting monster of the waters,
that floating pot-house, with its foaming pad-
dles and its smoky pennant that waves from
the blackened chimney. Its captain has just
told it to go on, and it has hissed assent, and
obeyed (the Lord be praised!); but not before
it has deposited a fat fine lady from Munich,
whose dreams are of Rhine salmon, and blue
trout, and bock beer. Already the primitive
punt that connects Nonnenwerth with the world
is about to cross, and to import another cargo
of green bonnets and red parasols from Godes-
berg. They have dismounted from their don-
keys, and will be over in five minutes. Is it
not heart-rending? Know, horrified traveller,
bad as this is, yet worse remains behind! In
the northern seas lie a group of islands, the
inhabitants of which have for ages been re-
markable for the restless curiosity and the in-
defatigable activity with which they penetrate
into all quarters of the globe—to say nothing
of the coolness with which they make them-
selves presents of any part of that planet that
suits their fancy, without leave asked or given
by the right owners. Of late years, this ten-
dency to locomotion, now so easily gratified,
since steam has put forth its grunting might,
has become almost an overruling passion; and,

accordingly, as the summer advances, these
strange people precipitate themselves in merci-
less hordes on the Rhine, and some unknown
and mysterious impulse attracts them towards
evening to Nonnenwerth. They seem, in the
preparations for their journeys, to have imbibed
some strong masquerading propensities; for
they conceal in their carpet-bags, on leaving
their native shores, dresses of a strange and
fantastic nature, which they dare not wear at
home, and which they put on on their arrival
at Ostend, or Antwerp, or Rotterdam, where
the like was never seen before. Some wear
straw-hats with pink ribands, and brims not
wide enough to keep off the sun; whilst others
cover their heads (such heads!) with little grey
canvass caps, that have no brims at all. Pro-
bably with a view of enabling them to clamber
unhurt among the rocks, most of them case
their feet in stuff boots, of a description never
worn elsewhere but by women, which they take
care should be tightly laced; but as an addi-
tional precaution against their falling off, they
attach to their trousers, of every imaginable
variety of check, which cover nearly the whole
of the foot, straps four inches broad. They
wear coats of grey or brown linen, of singular
shape and construction, which they seem to
consider as peculiarly suited to the country,
though thousands of years have passed over
Germany without one of her sons ever dream-
ing that his attire need be so fearfully and
wonderfully made. Many of them carry tele-
scopes, which are peculiarly useful in the nar-
row rock-bound gorges of the river; and most
have a pink volume in their hands, which they
consult constantly, and obey implicitly, and will
in consequence suddenly, and without visible
reason, appear in great numbers at the same
time on divers points of the Continent, to the
great terror and dismay of the inhabitants.
Very strange sounds issue from their lips when
they address the perplexed bystanders, in what
they conceive to be the language of the coun-
try; and stranger yet to those lips seem the
tender and budding moustachoes of three weeks’
growth, which adorn the faces and attest the
courage of these heroes. I confess that I lack
the courage to exhibit such object in the face
of the sun. Some of them, too, are impressed
with the notion that Germany and smoking are
convertible terms; and when they attempt to
put this untenable theory of theirs to the test
of practice, they are as sick as dogs in con-
sequence. Forgetful of the force they are
enacting themselves, they are moved to un-
meaning laughter by every new object they
encounter; and, generally speaking, contrive
to make their mirth offensive to the natives,
who gaze in hopeless perplexity, mixed with
no slight doubts respecting their sanity, upon
the wondering and wonderful figures that
stream along in every conceivable variety of
absurdity. These wandering tribes are some-
times accompanied by females, who seem to be
farther advanced in civilisation than the males.
They are rarely offensive, and frequently very
beautiful, and have a singular *péchant* for what
they call foreign gentlemen, in which deno-
mination they willingly include the bechained,
&c. &c. personages before mentioned from the
land of the Gaul; and when a northern horde
lands at Nonnenwerth for tea (merciful hea-
vens!) these fair creatures have a formula, be-
ginning—

‘The castled crag of Drachenfels
Looks on the broad and winding Rhine,
Whose breast of water,’ &c. &c. &c.,

which they repeat, with great energy and dif-
ference, with their eyes fixed on the arch of

Rolandseck, expressing the greatest horror at the misplaced and boisterous mirth of their male companions; and it is hard to say whether unpunctuated wit or unfelt sentimentality accord worse with the gentle and melancholy associations that belong to the retreat of Hildegund. However,

'The gods are just, and of our pleasant vices
Make whips to scourge us;'

and if neither the saints nor the spirits of the river will appear to vindicate its outraged dignity and exact satisfaction from the offenders, there is yet a class of men on its banks who willingly undertake the latter office; and those who

'Play such fantastic tricks before high heaven
As make the angels weep,'

are amused in a heavy fine; for the innkeepers of the present day fleece their unprotected victims, who wince piteously under the operation with a mercilessness to which the iron-handed exactions of the knights of six centuries ago was, at least in extent, a joke. The unhappy horses of the neighbourhood have not seen the sight of a bean these ten years, since the clamour for coffee, or *café*, as they call it, after dinner, has risen to its present alarming height. The trinkets that are brought home in triumph as specimens of the manufactures of Germany are natives of Birmingham; and, by some mysterious sympathy, the value of orchards has advanced, and is advancing, in exactly the same ratio as the cries for Rüdesheim, Steinberg, and the rest of the family of 'heims' and 'bergs' become more incessant and more ignorant."

But we have never given all the legend of Nonnenwerth, and must now conclude (having, by the length of our extracts, shewn how much we like this little volume) with our promised true history of *St. Adelheid of Willich*.

"In the latter end of the tenth century, the pious Count Meginotz of Geldern took counsel with his equally pious consort, Gerberga—(it was no joke for godfathers and godmothers when such names as those were fashionable)—on a subject that was near the heart of both, viz. the foundation and rich endowment of the nunnery of Willich. They had long pitched upon a pleasant spot for this establishment; and having completed the buildings, and made all necessary arrangements about endowments, it was finally, in the year 985, handed over to the safe keeping of Mother Church. Its site lies between the Rhine and Sieg, and may be reached in a few minutes from Bonn by any one who will place himself on that singular string of boats that swings gravely across the river by some incomprehensible faculty of its own, and then take the direction of that curious heap of buildings that composes the church of Schwartz Rheindorf, which is close to it. I am thus particular in describing its situation in the hopes of drawing public attention and public curiosity to that locality; for the power of working the remarkable cure there effected may yet linger in the neighbourhood: and no one who reads this simple story will hesitate a moment in agreeing with me that it never was more urgently wanted than at the present moment. However, it was a fair building in a smiling land; and those who said, as many did at the time, that the count, who never had been remarkable for strictness in religious matters, and the countess, who notoriously would not have exchanged one of her brocaded gowns for the complete costume of the blessed Virgin herself, were merely moved to this demonstration of piety by the wish to secure as much of their wealth as possible for their only

daughter—for fate had not blessed them with a son,—those cavillers, I say, might just as well have held their tongues for any good they did; for the lady in question, the melodious Adelheid, was installed abbess, in all due form, in her twenty-third year, and enjoyed all place, pre-eminence, privileges, and power belonging to her high station, by as good a title as if she was as old and as ugly as a witch, as some of her sister abbesses were. She was fair to look at, a blooming girl, who though she had hardly attained sufficient height, and inclined a little to *embonpoint*, yet had an air of dignity and grace about her that accorded well with her noble birth and sacred functions; her hair, of a sunny tinge, was braided in graceful simplicity over her clear forehead; eyes of light blue looked with a glance of intelligence over a nose hardly aquiline; and her lips—which, rarely entirely closed, displayed the glittering enamel of a singularly fine set of teeth—when they did open, poured forth a flood of the most ravishing harmony, that enchanted all hearers. Many of the neighbouring princes of Germany had sighed for her and her rich appanage; but the cloister was her choice, and her chief happiness was within the tranquil walls of her beloved Willich. It was well for the country about that she held that high office, for with a heart that felt deeply for her fellow-creatures, she had great talents, and the high spirit of her race, which, with her unaffected piety and unbounded liberality, gave her an influence all around, that was ever exerted in the cause of the poor and helpless, whose lot, in those rough times, was hard indeed to bear; and if she sometimes did like her own way, and was occasionally a little impatient, it was nothing more than what was natural in a young lady whose lot has given her power in early youth. But the great point upon which Adelheid prided herself, and which occupied no small portion of her thoughts, was the singing of her nuns. Herself a musician of the first order, and no contemptible composer, she laboured incessantly to train her gentle disciples in that art; and well did they repay her care, for her choir reigned in undisputed superiority for miles round. Her heart would swell within her, and all earthly greatness would be as dross in her eyes, as the mingled and mellow voices of her nuns rose in faultless harmony from the little chapel; and she used most seriously to assert that she had frequent conversations and occasional duets with St. Cecilia herself (in her dreams). It may be supposed that every now and then a refractory voice that could not be reduced to order, or, worse still, an ear innocent of tune, would make its appearance at Willich; and, in fact, this was the crook in Adelheid's lot. At first she used to manage to have the offender transferred to some other establishment, where they were less particular about the singing; but this was always a very difficult and very often an extremely expensive operation; and she was saved a world of trouble and vexation when she at last discovered what a much simpler remedy was within her reach. This discovery, like all others of any consequence, was made entirely by accident, and occurred thus:—Sister Agnes, a light-haired and a light-hearted daughter of the Elbe, who had barely completed her eighteenth year, was such a favourite with the whole convent, and, indeed, with the worthy abbess herself, that to part with her was quite out of the question; and yet the poor girl had no ear whatever; and her voice, low and inexpressibly sweet in conversation, was like the squall of a peacock when she attempted to sing. All Adelheid's

skill was lavished on her in vain; and, at last, all that could be done was, to direct her to let herself be heard as little as possible in the choir; for the good abbess, to whom music was as an anticipation of paradise, could not find it in her heart to tell her to hold her tongue altogether. But the conscientious Agnes was sadly pained at what appeared to her to be the nonperformance of an indispensable duty. On one occasion, when the convent was honoured by a visit from no less a personage than the prince-archbishop of Cologne in person, accompanied by a whole host of inferior luminaries and several bishops of various unknown dioceses in Africa and Asia Minor, who would have had serious difficulties to contend with if they had attempted to take possession of their seats, and consequently preferred living with their friends in Europe,—the tuneful abbess was, of course, desirous that every thing should go off in the best possible manner; and, above all, that the excellence of her choir should strike the illustrious visitors with wonder. The zeal of poor Agnes triumphed over her discretion, and she joined in the psalm with a fervour of devotion that startled alike sisters and strangers. Certainly a more unearthly howl never issued from the lips of a fair-haired girl of eighteen: and the sharp and warning glances of the distressed abbess totally failed in stopping her, till that personage, who never had been very remarkable for patience, suddenly rose from her throne, and passing rapidly behind the row of kneeling nuns, administered to the unsuspecting Agnes a box on the ear that rang through the chapel like the clang of a crossbow. But what was the universal astonishment when the irrepressible cry that broke from the startled nun softened down to a tone of rare sweetness! and before the abbess, who by this time had begun to be a little ashamed of herself, regained her seat, the happy Agnes was taking her part in the psalm with a richness of melody that had no equal in the chapel. It may be supposed that this manifestation of her own powers gave much satisfaction to the holy Adelheid, and that no more false singing was to be heard in her chapel to disturb her happiness. Indeed, so frequently were her powers invoked, that it is said in her old age she declined undertaking any more cures, having on one occasion dislocated her right wrist. The gift, as I said before, may linger yet on the spot, and could it be found, would be an incalculable benefit to the diners-out and attenders of parties of the present day; at all events, it is worth looking after: and some good might be effected, and no harm done, if mammams would resolve, in all doubtful cases, that their daughters' presentation at court should be preceded by a pilgrimage to the shrine of the holy Adelheid of Willich."

Should Mainzer or Hullah fail in the tuition of any of their multitudinous pupils, we would recommend them to try the method of the sanctified abbess.

The Ambassador's Wife. By Mrs. Gore. 3 vols. R. Bentley.

The Ambassador's Wife can scarcely be called a novel: sketches of society would perhaps be a better name descriptive; and yet, partaking of the attributes of both, neither alone would be perfectly correct: therefore, following the example of the title-page, we omit to express its species, treating it as a variety only, and leaving our readers to determine its class by our farther remarks. *The Ambassador's Wife* is unlike Mrs. Gore's novels generally, inasmuch as it is impossible for any one to feel

the slightest degree of interest in the personal destiny of either of the imaginary characters—if, in fact, they are imaginary, and not founded on actual events. A gleam, however, of her acknowledged talent in creating characters (Mrs. Armytage, for instance, and many others) breaks forth in the Baroness von Rehfeld and the Princess Prascovia. The rest are mere people to write and receive letters; in which ancient form, after a general introduction of the personages, these volumes are written. Ida, the Ambassadors, is an eminently selfish young creature, whose penitence for having made self an idol commences as her influence and consequence diminish—the change being rather of necessity than choice. But turning from the fiction to the more real and larger portion of the work, we readily avow that the sketches of society in circles royal and diplomatic, at the courts of Nicholas I. and Charles X., are skilfully written, and will be read with interest. The contrast between the two courts is great; yet in each party-spirit and intrigue are rife. Thus writes Ida from Paris:—

"My intercourse with these people (Russians of distinction), moreover, constitutes as much a duty as the society of the Hotel de C. a pleasure. The place they are to attain in French society depends mainly upon that conceded to them by their ambassador; and it requires some tact, and, above all, careful reference to the emperor's pleasure, to know who are to be received with open arms, who with composure, who with coldness, who carelessly excluded, who scornfully! This portion of my task is the more critical, that I have no precedent to recall to mind in the conduct of Madame von Rehfeld under similar circumstances. At St. Petersburg, even the brother or sister of an ambassador, if neglected by the court, would acquire no importance in society by such relationship: nor did our poor Residenz despatch thither travellers of sufficient note to make it of much consequence whether she invited them to her soirées, or left them to grovel in the commercial coteries to which they naturally appertained. Here all is on a different footing. At the diplomatic dinners, at court, every where, the leading Russians are naturally invited to meet their ambassador; and as it frequently happens that they owe their introductions in Paris to sources wholly disconnected with the imperial crown (such as former obligations of the late king during his residence at Mittau, or civilities bestowed in St. Petersburg upon former ambassadors or travellers of the French nation), the task is often perplexing. The English embassy—even if the English government were susceptible on such points, instead of utterly indifferent—has a comparatively easy duty. In a few hours the telegraph conveys news to England; in two days a courier brings instructions; and the ambassador may regulate his negotiations, and the ambassadors her curtsies, by order of the cabinet at home, without keeping a protocol or an invitation in suspense. Our position is more difficult. The representative of Russia must be a man qualified to act on his own authority—a man of understanding, rather than the mere showy lay-figure with a clever secretary, which, nine times in ten, constitutes the *matériel* of an ambassador."

Who would be an ambassador, if the following be "quite correct?"

"The life of an ambassador's wife. Marguerite, is no such gratuitous affair. Her object must be to entertain every one rather than herself; nor can she follow her personal inclinations in so mere a trifle as filling her dinner-

table or her opera-box. Every movement must be calculated, every favour so bestowed, as to ensure bringing good interest. She must conciliate enemies into friends, and yet be careful not to do it so openly as to convert her friends into enemies—preserving a nice and judicious balance of favour between the nation she represents and the nation to which she represents it. But if this be the case with all ambassadors' wives, how much more so with the wife of an ambassador of Russia!—responsible to an absolute monarch—responsible with his life and property, or, rather, his property and life; for it is easier to confiscate an estate than decapitate a head—the estate being always under the imperial sceptre, and the head not always on the imperial block."

We could select several other passages of the same character with the foregoing to prove the opinion we have expressed above. But we will only add, that no writer other than one mixed up in such scenes could depict so nearly to the life.

Bizarre Fables. By Arthur Wallbridge, author of "Jest and Earnest;" with 39 Illustrations on Wood. Pp. 154. Orr and Co.

WE do not find these Bizarre creations to be so much what are called fables, as ingenious and instructive stories to point so many (twenty) useful morals. To abridge any of them would be to spoil, and to give even a single specimen at length, with the present demand upon our columns, is out of our power. We can, however, most cordially recommend them to all youthful readers, as full of entertaining anecdotes, to impart an agreeable lightness to graver inculcations of practical value in the walk through life. The remarks are often terse and pithy. Thus, in the "Patron" we are told, "Every man but a fool makes a fool of himself with his first work: no man but a fool does so with his second." We doubt, however, the truth of the following:—"As woman is placed in our present social system, perhaps the most independent and life-enjoying of the sex is a young and attractive widow." No! she must be past youth and attractions—well up in years, and well left—unexposed to the passions and pursuits which attach to earlier years; in short, a comfortable old lady, with a good establishment, cook, and coachman, a sweet little banker's book at Coutts' or Childs', and a quiet memory of the bygone and lost, undisturbed by lovers and "all such buffoonery."

The woodcuts are neat and characteristic; and again we commend this pleasant companion to the world.

*A Shilling's Worth of Nonsense.** By the Editors of "Punch." Pp. 74. Orr and Co.

TRULY our Punching contemporaries are not only lively and facetious, but superabounding and overflowing fellows; seeing that they can not only keep up the continual weekly stream of humour demanded for the public supply, but give us side-cuts like the present, by way of farther irrigation. There is a quiet sarcastic pleasantry in the brief essays of which the *Shilling's Worth* (worth five and charged two-and-a-half times that sum) is composed, and the raillery of vices and follies is well-accompanied by a number of woodcuts and etchings, where requisite well drawn and fancifully grouped, and where merely the snatches of the moment, to illustrate a textual whim, droll and clever.

As a taste of the authorship, we select the paper entitled "Habit;" and as coming home

* Spelt "Nonsense" on cover; but we suppose the Eds. did not c it?

to, and being levelled at, our "tribe," the piquant remarks on "Criticism."

"Habit.—Habit being universally acknowledged to be second nature, he who wishes you to forego the indulgence of any of your established customs can be looked upon only as one of those individuals who are irrational enough to desire that which is unnatural. If, therefore, you are in the habit of smoking, and occupy apartments in a house wherein there is an elderly lady with an asthma, and she is to unreasonable as to expect you to deprive yourself of this innocuous enjoyment, do not hesitate to treat her as a maniac who would require you to exist without the very air you breathe. Should you have always accustomed yourself to plenty of air, and chance to occupy the inside of a stage-coach with a gentleman subject to the rheumatism in the head, and a lady afflicted with the toothache, stand upon no ceremony, but proceed to establish a thorough-draft by letting down both the windows; for recollect that none but barbarians would seek to control the dictates of nature, even though it be a second one. If you be one of twenty in a public room on a frosty morning, and have contracted a habit of warming the dorsal part of your body, do not hesitate to place yourself immediately before the fire; for there can be no necessity for you to inconvenience yourself for those to whom you are a perfect stranger; or should there be any friends of yours among the company, it would evince great selfishness upon their parts did they display any wish to control your enjoyment."

"Criticism.—A critic should know little or nothing, as he will then be enabled to form a more impartial opinion of all matters submitted to his judgment. It is, however, desirable that he make himself acquainted with the authors of those works which may engage his attention; for should the book be called upon to review be the production of a friend, he can obtain from him a more perfect knowledge of the intention and merits of the performance than he could by perusing it. On the other hand, should it be the production of an enemy, he can, of course, form a just estimate of the quality of the book from his preconceptions of the author's capabilities and character. The chief art of criticism is, to know whom to censure and whom to praise. Young and unknown writers are the safest subjects for critical anatomy, as it is nine chances to one that the judgment is never controverted by any subsequent production, as one stab from the reviewer's envenomed pen is generally fatal to literary hopes. There is no better guide to the man of talent and his works than an invitation to dinner; for the author must be imbued with an honest consciousness of his own power, and a fine sense of the critic's impartiality, thus, in his presence, to throw aside the mantle of genius, and to put on the dress-coat of hospitality. The critic's excellence consists in being able to condense the greatest amount of praise in the smallest number of lines, so that the 'opinion of the press' may be extracted and advertised at the least possible expense. We predict a few of the favourable criticisms upon our *Shilling's Worth of Nonsense*:—"This should be in the library of every man who is a lover of wit." "Every father should purchase this admirable little book for every son—every son for every father," &c. "This work will be read when Joseph Miller is forgotten." The unfavourable criticisms may run as follow:—"A *Shilling's Worth of Nonsense*.—Never did a work so fully bear out its title." "This book is a tissue of absurdities,

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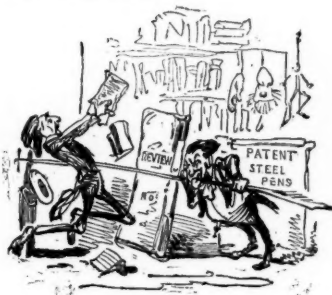
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ridiculing all that is good and great.' 'We object to the violent Conservative feeling which pervades this *Nonsense*.'"

We take this occasion to repeat of the hebdomadal *Punch*, what we once stated before, and greatly to his credit, that with all his fun and

merrymaking, he observes the strictest decency and propriety; and whilst some of his Sunday brethren revel in filth and obscenity, with ten times their talent and humour, never utters a syllable to offend a feeling of modesty and decorum.

[We subjoin two Critical cuts: and one of "mine ancient,"]



Ancestry.

date at the base, 7-lobed, smooth on both surfaces; lobes acutely toothed; nerves and veins hairy at their origin. (*Don's Mill*.) A deciduous tree of the middle size. N.W. coast of North America, between lat. 43° and 49°. Height 20ft. to 40ft. Introd. 1826. Flowers with the sepals purple, and the petals white; April and May. Keys purplish brown, with thin straight wings, which are so divaricate as to form right angles with the peduncle; the lower margin scarcely thickened. (*Tor. and Gray*). Decaying leaves of a fine reddish yellow. Naked young wood reddish brown.



136. *A. cer circinatum*.

Branches slender, pendulous, and crooked; often taking root, in the manner of those of many species of *Ficus*. Bark smooth; green when young, white when fully grown. Leaf the length of the finger, upon rather a short footstalk, membranaceous, heart-shaped, with 7-9 lobes, and 7-9 nerves; smooth above, except hairs in the axils of the nerves; downy beneath, and in the axils of the nerves woolly; lobes ovate, acute, and acutely serrated; the sinuses acute; the nerves radiate from the tip of the petiole, and one extends to the tip of each lobe. Flowers of a middling size, in nodding corymbs, that are on long peduncles. (*Hook. Fl. Bor. Amer.*) This is a very marked and beautiful species, distinguishable at sight by the regular form of its leaves, and their pale reddish green colour. Though this fine tree has been in the country since 1826, it seems to have been comparatively neglected, for there is no good specimen that we know of in the neighbourhood of London. At High Clere a thriving tree has ripened seeds for some years past, so that there can be no doubt of its hardness."

The Ladies' Flower-Garden of Ornamental Perennials. No. VII. W. Smith.

ANOTHER nosegay from Mrs. Loudon. How rich the double cheiranthus, and how sweet and simple all the viola family! Seven dianthus, in one group, give a pleasing variety of these gay flowers.

Hand-Book for Free Picture-Galleries, &c. By Felix Sumnerly. Bell and Wood.

This little brochure is a guide to the National Gallery, Dulwich Gallery, the pictures in the Soane and British Museums, and the Society of Arts; for all of which it is a most useful companion. A third edition says as much.

History of the Fairchild Family, &c. Part II. By Mrs. Sherwood. Pp. 359. Hatchards.

We remember nothing of Part I., if ever we saw it; but the sequel is a strange medley of what is *outré* and common.

An *Encyclopædia of Trees and Shrubs; being the Arboretum et Fruticetum Britannicum abridged: containing the hardy trees and shrubs of Britain, native and foreign, scientifically and popularly described; with their propagation, culture, and uses in the arts, and with engravings of nearly all the species; abridged from the large edition in eight volumes, and adapted for the use of Nurserymen, Gardeners, and Foresters. Illustrated with above 2000 Woodcuts. By J. C. Loudon, F.L.S., H.S. &c. &c. Pp. 1162. 1842.*

At the present time, when such a rage exists for horticultural and floricultural exhibitions that fourteen thousand persons have visited the Chiswick Gardens in one day, a work on trees and shrubs cannot fail to prove interesting to a great number of our readers. Mr. Loudon's larger work on the same subject, the *Arboretum Britannicum*, is so well known, and so universally approved of, that it would perhaps be enough to say that the present volume is an abridgement of it. It is, however, more than a mere abridgement; and indeed it may be considered also as a supplement, as it contains all the trees and shrubs, particularly the new Mexican pines and firs, which have been

introduced since the *Arboretum Britannicum* was published. There is also a table of the uses of trees and shrubs in plantations, indicating which are of slow growth or the contrary, which are useful for their timber, which ornamental for their flowers or leaves, &c. &c. The colour the leaves die off in autumn is indicated in another part of the book; and in another is a table on the shapes of the leaves, to assist the planter to discover the names of any trees that he is unacquainted with. In a word, the present work is one calculated to be of almost daily utility to every country gentleman who may either possess or who may wish to possess timber; and no master-gardener or forester should be without it.

The following extract will give an idea of the nature of the work, and of the extent and value of the information which it contains:—

"*A. CIRCINATUM* Parsh. The round-leaved Maple.

Identification. Pursh Fl. Amer. Sept., 1. p. 267.; Dec. Prod., 1. p. 393.; Don's Mill., 1. p. 651. Tor. and Gray, 1. p. 247.

Engravings. Hook. Amer., t. 39.; our fig. 136.; and fig. 157. of the leaves, of the natural size, in the plate forming p. 116.

Spec. Char., &c. Leaves orbicular, rather cor-

Eucharistica: Meditations and Prayers on the Most Holy Eucharist, from Old English Divines. With an Introduction, by S. Wilberforce, Archd. of Surrey. London, James Burns.

THE immense circulation of this small but most important volume, so dear to vital Christianity, and so forcible in its comments on the greatest of sacraments, has, we presume, induced the publisher to put forth this new edition in a style of extraordinary typographical beauty and ornament. The title-page is equal to the finest missal of former times, when all that art could perform was evoked to adorn the devotional books of their noble and royal possessors. The first initial letter is almost of equal merit, though not so rich and varied in its tints of gold and every brilliant colour in its graceful wreath. The red-line also, which surrounds every page of the clearly printed text, and all the other neat finish of the work, render it an elegant specimen of typography, and (without reference to its more momentous character) a volume worthy of being kept as a literary curiosity. The price is so low, that it must have been produced at no inconsiderable sacrifice of expense, which, however, we have no doubt will, in the end, be amply repaid to the spirited publisher.

A Summer's Day at Hampton Court; being a Guide, &c. By E. Jesse. J. Murray.

"A FIFTH edition, revised and enlarged," speaks for the utility of this guide to the palace, gallery, and gardens of Hampton; and, what is still more acceptable, bears witness to the number of visitors who hasten to enjoy the places of public recreation which a wise policy is now working to throw more and more open to the people. We may depend upon it, however little it may be seen on the surface, that not one person among a thousand goes through such a series of sights as Hampton Court presents without gathering something of intellectual elevation and moral improvement. The following curious notice is all we shall copy from this new edition. *The Post Boy* of June 8, 1695, is quoted thus: "London, June 7. Some days since several persons of quality having been affronted at the Ring in Hyde Park, by some of the persons that rode in hackney-coaches with masks, and complaint thereof being made to the Lord Justices, an order is made that no hackney-coaches be permitted to go into the said Park, and that none presume to appear there in masks;" and it is added, that hackney-coaches have been ever since excluded. Masks, too, have gone out of fashion; and thus we see how manners change.

ARTS AND SCIENCES.

BRITISH ASSOCIATION.

IN our last *Gazette*, by means of an extra sheet, we were enabled to make public the very interesting history, up to the latest dates, of the experiments on Magnetism and Meteorology, carried on by Capt. J. Ross in the Antarctic regions, and also those made at Aden; by the Russian government at Kasan, Bamoul, and other places; by other foreign governments; and by the East India Company:—the magnetic surveys of Southern Africa by Capt. Wilmot, &c.; those in Canada by Lieuts. Riddell and Lefroy; and, still farther afield, by the Hudson-Bay Company; those made at sea; and, in short, all the ascertained phenomena attending these gigantic enterprises, so widely extended as even to throw new lights upon geographical discovery:—next, the analysis of Liebig's important investigation of organic chemistry as applied to the food, health, and existence of man:—the useful paper of Mr.

Babington, on the best preservatives for animal and vegetable substances:—Mr. Vignoles' vitally interesting inquiries into various constituents of railway-locomotion, with a view to their improvement and the prevention of future accidents:—and, finally, the wonderful photographic (?) discovery of Prof. Moser of Königsberg (see p. 463), which must lead to new ideas on the grand questions, separate or combined, affecting the nature of light, heat, and electricity. When to these features we add the eloquent address in honour of science and its cultivation by Lord F. Egerton—the instructive sectional proceedings in chemistry, botany, zoology, medicine, statistics (and on the latter much valuable data were collected), geology, and mechanics—and especially the conversations of intelligent and practical men on all these subjects, often elucidating them far beyond the dry reports or theoretic opinions in the formal papers,—we repeat that, when these points are considered, we think we have established, even by a single publication of our Journal, the vast interest attached to the meetings of the British Association, and the vast service it performs, not only to the science of England, but the science of the world.

[We have this week the pleasure to commence our Report with a faithful analysis of Prof. Owen's interesting paper on British Fossil Mammalia read on Tuesday; the termination of whose researches in this field is earnestly looked for by the public at home and abroad. It is greatly to be desired that this pre-eminent palaeontologist would collect all his labours into one exposition, and give us a work like that of Agassiz on Fishes. Such a publication would be an honour to England; and assuredly all the science and intelligence of the country would hasten to support it to the utmost.—Ed. L. G.]

The first part of Professor Owen's report commences with observations on the tendency of the labours of natural historians of the present day towards the acquisition of exact knowledge of the animals and plants of particular countries. He referred to the series of excellent works, on the different classes of existing animals of Great Britain, published by Mr. Van Voorst, and the encouragement already given by the British Association to the formation of similar catalogues of the extinct species.

The contrast which these pictures of the past and present scenes of animated nature afforded was very striking. In regard to the class of reptiles, the interesting little volume, by Professor T. Bell, on the species now inhabiting Great Britain, seems, by this comparison, to form a mere appendix to the history of the fossil reptiles,—to so small a group of diminutive species has this class dwindled on our part of the earth's surface. The contrast between the recent and extinct mammalia, though less striking, was stated by Professor Owen to be considerable. In undertaking the survey of the British fossils of that class, their number and variety had compelled him, as in the report on fossil reptiles, to divide his subject, and prolong the researches which its elucidation required beyond the period originally assigned for them.

The first part of the report communicated by Professor Owen included the fossil *Quadrumanus*, *Chiroptera*, *Insectivora*, *Carnivora*, *Rodentia*, *Marsupialia*, and *Cetacea*, of Great Britain.

This bare enunciation of the heads of his report made known, the professor remarked, the surprising fact that one order of mammalia—the *marsupial*,—now totally unknown by native species in the old world of the geographer; and a second order, recognised as European only

by the few monkeys which breed on the rock of Gibraltar,—had formerly possessed representatives in the land which now constitutes Great Britain.

In the catalogue of the existing mammalia of our island, the zoologist finds no nearer approach to man than the diminutive bat; but the palaeontologist can ascend a step higher, and commence his enumeration with a species of the quadrumanous order.

Genus *Macacus*.—The existence of a species of *macacus* has been determined by Professor Owen, from fossil teeth and fragments of jaw discovered in a stratum of the eocene tertiary period, at Kyson, near Woodbridge, Suffolk. The anatomical characters and comparisons by which this very remarkable fact was established were given in detail. The evidence was stated to be as complete as that which had proved the existence of another quadrumanous species—a long-armed ape, in a contemporary formation in the south of France. During the lifetime of Cuvier, no fossil referable to the quadrumanous order had been discovered. They have subsequently been determined not only in tertiary strata in France and England, but in similar strata in the East Indies and in South America. Four different genera of monkeys are now known to have been represented at the remote periods when many of the singular mammalia now extinct were in being.

Of the order *Chiroptera*, Professor Owen described fossils which had been discovered in caves, the frequent depositaries of the fossil bones of larger animals; and the teeth of an extinct species of bat, from the same stratum as that which contained the fossil remains of the monkey.

Order *Insectivora*.—Of the fossils referable to the genus *Talpa*, the most entire skeleton had been discovered in a tertiary stratum near Bacton, in Norfolk. Fossil remains of shrews (*sorex*) have been found in the bone-cave called Kent's Hole, near Torquay, Devon; and in raised beaches near Plymouth. They offer no evidence of species distinct from those now existing in Great Britain.

The fossil jaws of the small insectivorous mammalia, from the calcareous oolitic slate at Stonesfield, near Oxford—the most ancient evidences of the mammalian class,—were next noticed; and the evidence establishing their claims to that rank in the zoological scale was succinctly given.

Prof. Owen, in describing the first-discovered fossil of this kind, to which the names *Amphitherium*, *Amphigonus*, and *Thylacotherium* had been successively applied, referred to his memoir published in the *Geological Transactions*, 1838, in which he concludes by stating, in regard to the generic name proposed by M. Valenciennes, that "it would have been more prudent to have chosen one less descriptive than *Thylacotherium*, since the affinities of the fossil insectivore to the marsupial order was indicated only with a certain degree of probability, and as requiring further evidence before the desired demonstration can be obtained." This evidence Prof. Owen then stated had since been afforded him by Dr. Buckland, who had placed in his hands the entire ramus of the lower jaw containing the whole series of teeth, and presenting the external surface to the observer. Mr. Owen had successfully relieved the angle of the jaw from the oolitic matrix, and found that it was not bent inwards, as in the opossum and other marsupial quadrupeds, but simply prolonged backwards, as in the placental insectivora. The number of teeth in this half jaw is sixteen, consisting of three incisors,

one canine, six false molars, and six true molars. With the present evidence, therefore, it was stated, that the ancient mammal of the secondary period, represented by the fossil in question, must be referred to the order *Insectivora*; and Prof. Owen stated, that the name *Amphitherium* ought to be retained for the genus, as it had the advantage of priority, as well as probable accuracy, over the other names.

Order Carnivora.—The most generally interesting and remarkable fossils described in the present part of the report were those of the large carnivorous quadrupeds, as the bear, tiger, leopard, and hyæna.

With respect to the genus *Ursus*, Prof. Owen commented on the difference which England presented, as compared with continental Europe, in the number of fossil bones of bears in diluvial caverns and drift. These, which are so abundant on the Continent, are very rare in England, where, on the other hand, the remains of the hyæna predominate, which are very rare fossils in the German bone-caves. He thought it worthy of consideration how far this difference in the geographical distribution of the two genera, at the antediluvial or anteglacial epoch, indicated the insular separation of Great Britain at that period.

Of the scanty evidences of the great cave-bear (*Ursus spelæus*) in England, the celebrated cave at Kirby Moorside had afforded a singleusk. The cave in the lofty limestone cliff at Paviland contained two canines, many molar teeth, the symphyseal end of two lower jaws, a nearly entire humerus, and some bones of the fore and hind paws. One of the caves discovered in quarrying the limestone rocks at Oreston, for the breakwater at Plymouth, contained several bones of a bear smaller than the *Ursus spelæus*, and which could not be distinguished from the existing European black bear. The richest depository of bears'-bones at present known in England, is the cave called Kent's Hole, near Torquay. The oldest depository of ursine fossils in England was stated to be the tertiary red-crag, below the so-called mammaliferous crag; the locality named was Woodbridge. Among the more recent formations, besides the bone-caves, fossils of the bear were described from the brick-earth, a fluvialite deposit in the valley of the Thames, and under bog-earth and fens. The most entire specimens were those discovered in the Manca fen, Cambridgeshire, five feet below the surface.

After enumerating the parts of the skeletons of bears found fossil, and the strata and localities containing them, Prof. Owen next entered upon the discussion of the specific characters and differences of the fossils. He pointed out some additional distinctive marks to those indicated by Cuvier, in the dentition, the skull, the humerus, and femur; establishing, in his opinion, the specific distinction of the *Ursus spelæus*. He combated the arguments advanced by Prof. de Blainville against that opinion; and shewed that the elevation of the forehead, produced by the capacious frontal sinuses in the extinct cave-bear, could not be accounted for on the supposition that a purer and more invigorating atmosphere was inhaled by those ancient bears than by their presumed degenerate descendants. The polar bear, for example, has the flattest head and least developed frontal sinuses.

Prof. Owen did not, however, admit of the specific distinction between the *Ursus spelæus* and *Ursus arctoides*; at least in regard to the character which Cuvier had founded upon the structure of the humerus. The differences in the fossil humeri, supposed to be indicated by the figures

published by Hunter, were really those which distinguished the *Ursus spelæus* from the *Ursus maritimus*, the upper figure having been taken from a humerus of the polar bear still in the Hunterian collection, and not from a fossil, as stated in the description of the plate. The perforation of the condyle of the fossil humerus in the Parisian collection, Prof. Owen regarded as an accidental anomaly.

The distinct specific characters of the *Ursus priscus* were illustrated by observations on the fossils of that extinct species from Kent's Hole. This cave likewise contained canine teeth of that very remarkable extinct species called *Ursus cultridens* by Cuvier, and made the type of the genus *Machairodus* by Kaup. Fossil bones of the badger (*Ursus meles*) occur in diluvial gravel.

Genus Hyæna.—After enumerating the several caverns and other localities in which the remains of a large species of this genus have been found, Prof. Owen next entered upon the question of its characters and affinities to the known existing species. The ancient British cave-hyæna more closely resembles the *Hyæna croatica* of South Africa than the *Hyæna vulgaris* of North Africa and Asia Minor. It differs from the Cape hyæna in the smaller interspace between the condyle and the occipito-mastoid, and in the greater relative depth of the posterior plate of the glenoid cavity for the lower jaw. In the spotted hyæna the anterior and internal tubercle of the penultimate molar (upper jaw) is relatively larger, and the small posterior molar is a little further removed from the penultimate one. The posterior ridge of the second molar-tooth of the lower jaw is relatively broader in the fossil than in the recent hyæna; the first molar, lower jaw, is also relatively larger, especially in its posterior division, and it is nearer the canine, in the fossil hyæna.

The numbers of the *Hyæna spelæa* in England may be conceived, when the remains are not fewer than from 200 to 300 have been discovered in a single cavern, as that at Kirby Moorside, the history of which, and the habits of its ancient carnivorous occupants, are given with so much ingenuity, force of argument, and truth, in the celebrated *Reliquie Diluviane*.

Fossil hyænas have been shewn by Dr. Buckland to be found in this country, as on the Continent, in situations of two kinds, viz. caverns and drift, or the so-called diluvial gravel. In the latter formation they were first discovered in England, in the year 1822, at Lawford, near Rugby, associated with bones of the mammoth, rhinoceros, equus, bos, &c. The integrity of the hyæna's under jaw from this locality presents a remarkable contrast with the uniformly fractured condition of the bones from the caverns; and the explanation of, and deductions from, this difference are brilliant instances of the perspicacity of the author of the *Reliquie*.

Genus Canis.—Amongst the fossils referable to the wolf, the most remarkable is an almost entire cranium from Kent's Hole. Other fossils of the wolf were mentioned from other caverns. Fossil-bones of the fox had been found in Kirkdale, at Oreston, and other localities.

Of the genus *Putorius*, two species, one of the size of the weasel, the other of the ferret, had left their fossil remains in caves and raised beaches.

Genus Felis.—The remains of a feline animal, surpassing in size the largest lion or tiger, have been found in the bone-caves of the Mendip Hills, in those at Oreston, at Kirby Moorside, and in Kent's Hole. Of this remarkable species, to which the name of *Felis spelæa* has

been given, most of the characteristic bones have been discovered in the caves at Gailenreuth, proving its true feline structure. The metacarpal bone of a large *Felis* from the hyæna-cave at Kirby Moorside does not exceed in size the corresponding bones of the tiger: it might have belonged to a young individual of the *Felis spelæa*.

In a collection of fossil teeth from the red crag of Newbourn, near Woodbridge, Prof. Owen detected a posterior molar belonging to the left side of the lower jaw of a species of *Felis*, equal in size to the leopard. It presented the same mineral condition, and had been subject to the same mechanical attrition, as the fossil teeth of an extinct shark (*Carcharias megalodon*), found along with it.

Genus Phoca.—Of this genus the lower extremity of the characteristic femur, found fossilised in a tertiary bed at Thorpe, was described.

Order Cetacea.—Most of the remains of this order of mammalia have been, in Great Britain, found in gravel-beds adjacent to estuaries or large rivers, in marine drift or diluvium, and in the subjacent clay-beds; but although these depositories are the most superficial, and belong to the most recent period in geology, the situation of the cetaceous fossils generally indicates a gain of dry land from the sea. Thus the skeleton of a balænoptera, 72 feet in length, found imbedded in clay on the banks of the Forth, was more than 20 feet above the reach of the highest tide. Several bones of a whale, discovered at Dunure Rock, Stirlingshire, in brick-earth, were nearly 40 feet above the present level of the sea. The vertebrae of a whale, discovered by Mr. Richardson in the yellow marl or brick-earth of Herne Bay in Kent, were situated 10 feet above the occasional reach of the sea on that coast. A large vertebra of *Balæna mysticetus* was discovered 15 feet below the surface, in gravel, by the workmen employed in digging the foundation for the new Temple-church. The tooth of a cachalot has been discovered by Mr. Brown in the diluvium of Essex. Many analogous localities were cited, from which cetaceous remains had been obtained of the genera *Balæna*, *Balænoptera*, *Physeter*, *Delphinus*, *Monodon*, and *Phocæna*.

The most completely petrified remains of this order are a series of ankylosed vertebrae of a large Delphinus in the museum of Prof. Sedgwick. Their fossilised condition indicated a higher antiquity than the cetacean fossils noticed in the report. They were discovered in Cambridgeshire, but the stratum and locality were unknown. No specimens of herbivorous cetacea had hitherto been discovered in British strata.

Order Rodentia.—The fossil remains of species of this order were referred to the genera *Castor* (beaver), *Arvicola* (water-vole, field-vole), *Alus* (rat and mouse), *Lepus* (hare and rabbit). In superficial drift; bogs and fens, bone-caves, mammaliferous, and subjacent red crag.

Order Marsupialia.—In the eocene sand underlying the London clay at Kyson, near Woodbridge, Sussex, a small portion of jaw, with a spurious molar tooth, was found. This had been referred to the opossum (*Didelphys*); but Prof. Owen, to whom the specimen had been submitted by Mr. Lyell, considered that the evidence it afforded was insufficient to establish the conclusion, although the resemblance was sufficiently close to render its accuracy probable. Additional specimens were required to demonstrate the existence of a *Didelphys* in

British eocene formations, as satisfactorily as had been done by Cuvier in regard to the small opossum from the contemporary strata in France.

Genus Phascolotherium.—With regard to the fossils on which this genus is founded, the maxillary and dental evidence is more decisive. Two half-jaws, one containing the whole dental series, had been discovered in the oolitic slate at Stonesfield, associated with the *Amphitherium* or *Thylacotherium*, described in a preceding section of the report. Prof. Owen referred to his paper in the *Geological Transactions*, in which this jaw is described and figured, and quoted those passages which illustrate the marsupial affinities of the genus. It has four true molars, and three, or at most four, false molars in each ramus of the lower jaw, one canine, and three incisors. In the proportionate size of the molars, especially the small size of the hindmost tooth, the *Phascolotherium* resembles the *Myrmecobius* more than the opossum or dasyure; but it more resembles the *Thylacine* in the shape of the grinding-teeth. It likewise agrees with the thylacine in the low position of the condyle, and in the longitudinal extent of the inwardly inflected angle of the jaw.

In conclusion, Prof. Owen dwelt on the interesting correspondence between other organic remains of the British oolite and existing forms now confined to the Australian continent and neighbouring seas. Here the *Cestration* swims which has given the key to the nature of the "palates" from the oolite, now known as teeth of congeneric gigantic forms of cartilaginous fishes, *Acerodus*, *Pseudodus*, &c. Living *Trigonia* and *Terebratulæ* abound in the Australian seas, and afford food to the *Cestration*, as their extinct analogues probably did to the *Acerodi*, &c. *Araucariæ* and cycadeoid plants flourish on the Australian continent, where marsupial quadrupeds abound; and thus appear to complete a picture of an ancient condition of the earth's surface, which has been superseded in our hemisphere by other strata and a higher type of mammiferous organisation.

The second and concluding part of the Report on British fossil mammalia would contain an account of the fossil herbivorous or ungulate species of mammalia, many of which, doubtless, constituted the prey of the lions, bears, hyænas, wolves, &c. which co-existed in Great Britain with gigantic deer and oxen, rhinoceroses, hippopotamuses, elephants, and still stranger pachyderms, in the antediluvial and tertiary periods.

SECTIONS.—FRIDAY.

SECTION A.—Mathematical and Physical Science.

1. Mr. F. Baily, "Report on the reduction of Stars in the Histoire Celeste."
2. Mr. F. Baily, "Report on British Association Catalogue of Stars."
3. Sir J. F. W. Herschel, "Report of the Committee for effecting the reduction of La Caille's Stars."
4. Colonel Sabine, "Report of Committee for translating and publishing Foreign Memoirs."
5. Sir D. Brewster, "On the existence of two Neutral Points, and Secondary Neutral Points, in the Atmosphere."
6. Sir D. Brewster, "Description of a Polarimeter for measuring the Polarisation of the Atmosphere."
7. Prof. Powell, "On certain cases of Elliptic Polarisation."
8. Mr. J. S. Russell, "Supplemental Report of Committee on Waves."

The first and third reports convey the gratifying intelligence, that the whole of the stars known as Lalande's and La Caille's, about 47,000 of the former, and about 10,000 of the latter, have been reduced, and a catalogue of them completed and prepared for publication at the expense of the Association. A committee, consisting of the president and officers, together

with the Marquis of Northampton, the Dean of Ely, Sir John Herschel, and Francis Baily, Esq., has been appointed to represent to government the great value of the catalogues, if printed for general use and information, and to request the government to undertake their publication.

The second report also announced, that the calculations of the places, with the annual precessions, secular variations, proper motions, and the logarithms of the proper constants, have been completed for 8300 stars, and that the same are copied out for the press. For their publication, without which little benefit would have accrued to astronomical science, the Association have voted this year 550*l.*; in all, 700*l.*

Two works have been translated since the last year, and published in the ninth number of *Taylor's Foreign Scientific Journal*. They are Gauss's "General Propositions relating to attractive and repulsive forces acting in the inverse ratio of the square of the distance," and Dove "On the Law of Storms."

Sir D. Brewster, after noticing the two neutral points (points where there was no polarisation of light) of MM. Arago and Babinet, said he had discovered a third. He also stated that, from general results of observations continued for a long time, instead of the point of maximum polarisation being always, as supposed, 90°, he had found it more frequently 88° from the sun. It was generally believed that the polarisation, at a maximum of 90° from the sun, was produced at an angle of 45°, but he found the angle only 30°. He noticed that when the polarisation was extremely weak there was always floating a quantity of white vapour in the atmosphere. Another result of his observations was opposite to the one given by M. Arago, who thought that the curves of equal polarisation were concave, whereas these observations showed that they were always convex towards the sun. Sir D. Brewster then adverted to the secondary neutral point (of polarisation) which he had discovered in peculiar states of the atmosphere. He also described a polarimeter, or polariscope, formed of several plates of glass, two plates of rock crystal cut in a peculiar way, and a plate of tourmalin, by which he said the rectilinear bands in polarisation were seen more clearly than by other methods.

The theory of elliptic polarisation, as given by Prof. Lloyd, in explanation of certain results obtained by Sir D. Brewster, with thin films reflecting polarised light, has been confirmed experimentally by Prof. Powell. The latter professor had also developed the fact of periodic colours from these films, the ellipticity undergoing successive and alternate changes. The theory, with a new formula by Prof. Airy, embraces also the new phenomena.

Mr. Scott Russell's supplemental report had reference to what he termed waves of the third order, or capillary waves; the first being the wave of translation, solitary, onward, according to the depth of the fluid, and of two kinds, positive and negative; the second being oscillatory waves, gregarious, having relation to their amplitude, but also of two kinds, onward and stationary. The capillary waves are gregarious, and of two kinds, free and constrained. Believing them to be the minute waves of Poisson, he thought it right to examine them. Their experimental origin being only 1-16th of an inch in diameter, they swept over several feet, and exhibited great regularity and beauty, as the diagrams shewed, without which, however, description would be of little avail. When moving freely, the capillary waves have a velo-

city of 8½ inches per second. Mr. Russell had also made considerable progress in the examination of the waves of the second order, and had completed those of the first. The detailed and tabular report in the Transactions can alone convey a correct idea of this extensive and complicated investigation.

SECTION B.

The Marquis of Northampton in the chair.

1. Prof. Haidinger, of Vienna, communicated a long and circumstantial "Account of the Mineralogical and Geological Museum of the Imperial Mining Department of that capital," which he had arranged by command of the Emperor of Austria. The distribution of every specimen was carefully recorded, and the whole seemed to be a model for conveying a distinct knowledge of the mineralogy and geology of the different formations throughout the empire; so much so, indeed, that the chairman expressed the very natural wish, when the new buildings in the British Museum were finished, we should see the example followed, and a complete collection of the mineral and geological wealth of Britain formed in that national repository. A member mentioned the Museum of Economic Geology, which had already made such gratifying progress in the metropolises.

2. Dr. Lyon Playfair, a young, and not only a very promising, but a very admirable chemist, whose manipulation, experiments, and observations always seem to us to be of a valuable character, read a paper on "Some new Oxides of certain of the metals of the Magnesian family," respecting which so little had been ascertained. He detailed the modes of his experiments, and exhibited empirical and rational formulæ of the results, shewing the oxides of the magnesian metals, as far as known, and the hydrates of peroxide of copper and of cupric oxide with their cuprous analogues. The names of *cuprous* and *varacite* were given to an aqueous cupric oxide and a cupric peroxide of copper; but the whole would be poorly demonstrated without the diagrams and chemical details.

3. Mr. Mercer's paper of catalytic action,* which had arrived at the same conclusions respecting new oxides on hypotheses, was, with Dr. Playfair's statement, the subject of long conversation, in which it was generally agreed that his explanation of catalysis was even superior to that of Liebig. The interior changes of rocks by chemical agency will, we presume, come under this category; for certainly they have not yet been explained.

4. The Report of Mr. R. Hunt of Cornwall, "On the influence of Light on the Germination and Growth of Plants," was then read. He had provided six boxes, so constructed that no light could enter except through glass of different colours—the first being deep red, the last deep green. In these boxes he had raised ranunculus, tulips, and other plants. The tulips he found germinated the first under the orange glasses, and last under the blue and green. Under the blue glass the plants, although slower in germination, were more healthy, and promised to come to maturity, and be as perfect flowers; while under the orange they were more forward but sickly. A curious result was noticed with respect to the red glass:—under all other circumstances plants bent towards the light; but those under the red glass bent away from the light. In nearly all cases germination had been prevented by the absorptive power of the yellow rays.

Dr. Daubeny, as one of the committee appointed to investigate the subject with Mr.

* Catalysis is the name of a power which cannot be detected.

Hunt, hoped the committee would continue the grant to the latter gentleman. The results at present obtained seemed indecisive; and, without wishing to throw any discredit on the experiments, he thought Mr. Hunt ought to have a further opportunity of establishing his principle, that chemical rays produced a specific and positive influence on the germination of plants.

SECTION C.

The papers appointed for this Section were, —1. Prof. Owen's "Report on British Fossil Mammalia" (which did not, however, appear till later in the week's proceedings); 2. the "Report of the Committee on Mud in Rivers;" 3. a "Report on advancing the Knowledge of Belemnites;" and 4. a "Memoir, by Dr. Dale Owen, on the Geology of the Western States of America." The last paper took precedence; and with two very large panoramic views of the structure of the new world, furnished the subject for an able commentary by Mr. Murchison. All the various fossil remains hitherto discovered in that region, distinguishing the strata where found, were pictured on the views; and one of them represented the geological formations observed in that part of the country, extending from the Wisconsin river, and passing along the Mississippi, Illinois, Sargamou, Kaskaskia, Embarras, Wabash, White, Ohio, Green, Cumberland, and Tennessee rivers; Alleghany mountains. The other view commenced at Chickshaw bluffs, Tennessee, and proceeded across the state of Kentucky, in a course nearly northeast; through part of Ohio and Pittsburg, to the Alleghany mountains. The country to which the paper referred embraced Illinois, Indiana, a portion of Kentucky and Ohio. In this region, as observed by Mr. M., there were two coal-fields, one of which (the Illinois coal-field) was nearly as large as Great Britain. This great tract of country was traversed at its southern termination by the river Ohio. The other coal-field was called the coal-field of the Ohio, and was also very extensive. They were separated from each other by an axis of much more ancient rocks; and the special object of the author in bringing the communication before the English public was, to have the identification established between those lower rocks on which the coal-fields rested and those which support our great carboniferous series in the British isles. The president then pointed out on the map the places where the different fossils were found, and shewed that in many respects there was a striking coincidence between the stratifications and the remains discovered in them with those of our own country. One of the most remarkable coincidences was a cluster of fossil trees, the representation of which resembled those in Dixon Fold so much, that it was supposed by the meeting, until the president informed them to the contrary, that the diagram referred to that group. In the course of a conversation which afterwards ensued, Mr. Binney noticed one difference—the fossil trees in Dixon Fold had only four roots each, while the American fossils had many.

Fossil head of an ox.—The President next exhibited the head of an ox, found a few days ago in excavating a sea-lock at the east end of the Forth and Clyde Canal, on the Frith of Forth, at twenty feet below high-water mark.

British belemnites.—Prof. Phillips reported what had been done since the last meeting of the Association in regard to these fossil shells. M. Du Blauville had already described a great number of them, traced the analogy between their structure and that of other fossils, particularly the nautilus, to which the analogy was striking. M. Voltz, of Strasburg and Paris,

also published a valuable work on this subject; and Dr. Buckland, in the Bridgewater Treatise, had added much to our knowledge of those animals. Fifty pounds had been placed in the hands of Prof. Phillips, to defray the expense of drawings and engravings; and these were nearly completed, and would be distributed among geologists. He had already collected forty apparently distinct species of the belemnites. The belemnite had four aspects, two of which were alike, and two dissimilar; and he would have to make such drawings as would enable a person to see all the aspects in which they could be presented, in order that the species might be distinguished. He hoped he should soon be able to give a correct account of the forms of the belemnites, and the manner in which they are distributed in the stratified rocks.

Mud of Rivers.—The president informed the Section, that the committee appointed to report on the mud of rivers had forwarded a communication from Belfast, stating that they had as yet made little progress, as the results were very unsatisfactory. With regard to earthquakes, they had nothing to report. A great number of those stories appearing in newspapers were nothing more than exaggerated accounts of storms.

This would have been but a blank day in this spirited Section, but for the reading of a letter or report from M. Agassiz, by Mr. L. L. B. Ibbetson, "On the Fossil Fishes in the Devonian, or Old Red Sandstone formation." M. Agassiz congratulated himself on the favourable circumstances which had enabled him to complete a certain part of the important work confided to him by the Association. He alluded to the scanty knowledge which existed only a few years ago with regard to this formation, and the rapid progress of discoveries since made; which nevertheless rendered it the more difficult at this period to ascertain their limits. In 1834, when he visited Scotland, Dr. Fleming, Prof. Sedgwick, and Mr. Murchison, had alone mentioned the fossil fishes of the old red sandstone. Dr. Fleming described certain scales from Claghinnie; and Messrs. Sedgwick and Murchison, assisted by Cuvier, Valenciennes, and Pentland, published a description of two new genera of fossil fish from Caithness. The total number of species was then limited to four, and only one had been figured: but we had already enumerated ten genera and seven species, when Mr. Murchison's great geological work appeared. In 1840, when he had again visited Scotland, and the Meeting held at Glasgow, he had been enabled to examine double that number of genera, and triple the number of species. Among these were the winged specimens which had attracted so much notice, and of which nothing previously revealed about extinct creations could have made us even suspect the existence. So true it was, that observation alone could enable us to find out the laws of development of these organised creatures; and taught us how much we ought to be on our guard against all systems of the transformations of species which the imagination invented with so much facility. M. Agassiz then observed, that the merit of these discoveries belonged in an eminent degree to Mr. Miller; and he (M. A.) had only to determine their characters and their relations with the fossil fish already known. He mentioned the *Pterichthys*, and the *Coccoosteus*, the latter offering to comparative palaeontologists a field not less fruitful than the announcement, a quarter of a century ago, of the existence of the *Ichthyosaurus* and *Plesiosaurus*. Mr. Miller's work, on the fossil fish of the old

red sandstone of Cromarty, shewed the difficulty which attended the study of these two genera; but he had most carefully examined the small fragments conserved in all the Scottish collections. And among recent contributors to increase our information respecting them, he must mention the late Lady Gordon Cumming, whose liberality in distributing her collection from a quarry made for that purpose was without bounds.*

Thanks to Mr. Murchison's recent excursion to Russia, the writer was no longer confined to report on the fossils of the devonian system, and only to the species found in the British isles. He could hence compare them with those which this indefatigable geologist had brought from that distant quarter, and which were perfectly identical with those of Scotland; whilst, on the Continent, Messrs. Omalié, d'Halevy, and Honinghamer, had also discovered some fish in that formation. His report would be incomplete, if he did not state that the doubts which existed concerning those large specimens of the old red sandstone, and which were thrown about into classes the most different in the animal and vegetable kingdoms, were now satisfactorily determined by Dr. Buckland and himself to belong to the *Crustacea*. M. A. next went into the general consideration of the characteristic geological distribution of the fossil fish found in the different parts of the devonian system, reserving the descriptive details for the special portion of his monograph. He spoke of Mr. A. Robertson's, Lord Enniskillen's, Sir Philip Egerton's collections; of Dr. Trail's and Mr. Strickland's specimens from schists in the Orkneys, which seemed to be inexhaustible; but it is not necessary for us to go farther into details, and we rather turn to the new grand theory which the writer has built up on this subject. M. Agassiz holds, that organic beings were entirely destroyed at every *étage* in the formation of the crust of our earth, and an altogether different creation adapted to the altered system of the world. This has startled his contemporaries, and given rise to as strong a sensation as his glacier-theory did; but till more regularly brought forward in the London Geological Society, it would be premature to speculate on the controversy. Suffice it to say, that the conclusion was at once repudiated by many of the most eminent geologists in Manchester.

The genera particularised by M. Agassiz, which had the greatest number of species, are the *Pterichthys*, *Coccoosteus*, *Cephalaspis*, *Opeolepis*, *Dipterus*, *Glyptolepis*, *Platygnathus*, *Dendrodus*, *Diplacanthus*, *Cheiracanthus*, and *Cheirolepis*. Among those which have representatives in the silurian system, or coal-measures, are *Onchus*, *Etenacanthus*, *Elenoplychius*, *Ptychacanthus*, *Acanthodes*, *Diplopterus*, and *Holoptichus*. Not one species is identical in these different formations; a result which agrees admirably with that already obtained in the other stages (*étages*) of the series of rocks of which the crust of the earth is composed.

SECTION D.

1. On the table was exhibited, by Mr. L. T. Gaskell, of Liverpool, a gigantic pair of the horns of the Wapiti deer, brought from the western districts of America, the head being

* To this lamented lady, and to her daughter, the science of fossil geology is indeed deeply indebted. Lady Gordon Cumming's exquisite but wonderfully accurate drawings are the admiration of all who have seen them; and on the present occasion her daughter, with a liberality worthy of such descent, communicated a number of the most valuable illustrations to the Association. Dr. Macalmon's labours also deserve a passing tribute of merited eulogy.—Ed. L. G.

nearly three-quarters of a yard in length, with tufts of hair on each side, almost resembling the front mane of a lion; whilst the towering antlers were about six feet long from the base of the skull to the tip of the horn. Mr. Gaskell stated that these prodigious antlers were brought hither by Mr. D. Mossmore, an eminent naturalist of the United States, along with the living male and female of the same species (young ones), which were now in the possession of her Majesty, in Windsor Park, to whom they were presented by the Earl of Derby.

2. Mr. Peach, a practical observer, in the uniform of the Coast Guard, from Cornwall, gave a communication "On the nidus and growth of *Purpureus Capillus*." The Perriwinke he had ascertained to be oviparous. He had found one (or more) full of ova; and under the stones where they abounded, the ova was to be seen in large quantities. (A small grant was recommended to him to pursue these inquiries.)

3. Mr. Crouch read part of a tabular list on the migration of birds and flowering of plants in Cornwall. The dates of the first appearance of the former and first budding of the latter were accurately recorded; and it was suggested that it would be well for all persons who took notes of such matters to send them to M. Quelet, at Brussels, to enable him to make a European table of the arrivals of birds and the blowing of flowers. As frequently happened in this Section, a sort of gossip ensued, in which many interesting facts were elicited and observations made: *ex. gr.* it was stated that the budding of the larch on the 1st or 14th of April was a sure indication of an early or late season—a vegetable weather-glass. The nightingale, whose latitudes have been so often determined by popular inaccuracy, was mentioned to have been heard in Cornwall four years ago; and that, in spite of all traditions to the contrary, the same sweet songster abounds about York. Our Coast-Guard was very sensitive on the subject, and almost fainted when it was suggested that his Cornish nightingale might have been the sedge-warbler.

4. Mr. Blackwall, the close observer of the very curious habits of spiders, gave an account of a larva parasitic upon that fell destroyer, and which seems to be the organ of retributive justice against the spoiler. It appears, that only one larva is deposited on the spider at a time, at the upper part of the junction of the body and abdomen, as the latter could not support a greater number. By and by it becomes restless, and kills the spider, which is found lying dead—a skeleton; whilst its murderer attaches itself to some near object, and begins to spin itself a cocoon. Mr. Blackwall ascertained this by enclosing the spider with the nidus upon it, on several different occasions, in a closely stopped phial, when the same phenomena occurred. The avenger of flies and other insects is a small species of ichneumon. The egg is deposited in autumn; and, strange to tell, different kinds of spiders afford different kinds of food, and thence the cocoons are of different colours!

5. Mr. Strickland read the report of the committee appointed two years ago, "On the Growth and Vitality of Seeds." Their object was to ascertain the longest period at which various seeds would vegetate; and his colleagues were Messrs. Henslow, Daubeney, and Lindley. The experiments had been carried on in the experimental garden at Oxford; and the curator's report treated of 78 species and 60 genera, now preserved in small brown-paper parcels, and enclosed in jars with one opening covered with fine sand, in order to prevent insects, but

allow air to enter. Others were tried with two openings in the jars covered with wire; and a third set where the covering was wax. Mr. S. noticed that they had encased a sufficient quantity to last for more than a century, and the seed to be tried from time to time. The results, he specified, were, that of seed gathered in 1834, 5, and 6, none had yet vegetated. Of that gathered in 1837, only two kinds had vegetated out of 15 or 16 sown. Of 1841, a greater number had come up; but all the experiments led to a doubt of the accuracy of the stories circulated of the vegetation of very old seeds under any circumstances.

A long conversation followed, in which testimony was given touching facts in direct contradiction to this opinion; and suggestions were offered in regard to different modes of keeping the seeds—as in hermetically sealed vessels, and sowing them in various depths of earth.

In Section E. the papers set down were—

1. Mr. John E. Erichsen, "On the Influence of the Coronary Circulation on the Heart's Action."

2. Mr. Alex. Shaw, "On some Peculiarities in the Circulation in the Liver."

3. Dr. Fowler, "Observations on a Case of combined Deafness, Dumbness, and Blindness."

4. Prof. Williams, "On some Therapeutic Applications of Air-tight Fabrics."

SECTION G.—*Mechanical Science.*
1. Mr. Taylor, "On an Improved Description of Drawing-Paper and Scales."

2. Mr. Fairbairn, "On the Consumption of Smoke."

3. Mr. Juckes, "On a new Furnace for Consuming Smoke."

4. Mr. Williams, "On the Prevention of Smoke."

5. Mr. J. Smith, "On an Improved Steam-Boller."

The new drawing-paper was recommended to surveyors. Its chief advantages, it appeared, were, that it expanded and contracted with regularity, and that by the method of joining the sheets it always presented a smooth surface.

Mr. Vignoles had great pleasure in stating that he had tried this paper, and that it corresponded to the representations of the patentee. It remedies inconveniences hitherto felt; it offers great facility of joining; and is, in short, a useful, practical invention. The paper itself is an union of ordinary drawing-paper with cloth by a new cement.

The whole of the day was occupied with the smoke-discussion. So many interests were involved, so many patent rights advocated, and so many superior processes and inventions recommended for adoption, and each and every one the best, that the proceedings appeared a Penelope's web, a labour never to be ended.

Mr. Fairbairn's communication was, however, the introductory portion of a report called for by the Association at Glasgow, consequent upon a paper read there by Mr. C. Wye Williams. It contained the results of a series of experiments, which, when carried out at length and completed, promise to be of considerable value. The phenomena of combustion have occupied philosophers for ages; but it is only within a short period that the mystery has been unravelled by modern chemistry, and that the changes and combinations the gases undergo have been clearly understood. Mr. Fairbairn divided the subject of his preliminary inquiry into four heads: 1. The present state of knowledge as regards combustion, and particularly as applied practically to steam-engines; 2. The due relations between the furnace and the boiler as the generator and recipient; 3. The dimensions and height of the chimney; and 4. The best method of working the furnace, and the nearest approximation to the maximum of effect. He then alluded to the views of Mr. Williams on combustion, with reference to the generation of gases, their combination with atmospheric air, the constitu-

tion of coal-gas, and its incorporation with air for thorough combustion, &c., which we need not follow. Suffice it that Mr. Fairbairn, and, we may add, many authorities, believe Mr. Williams's view of combustion correct. But whatever the theoretical knowledge may be, the question is—and this is the first head—What is the state of practical knowledge of combustion? For the most part, great ignorance and extravagant waste prevail in all districts, with the exception of Cornwall. There the system of stoking is good, and the furnaces are well managed. To introduce such a system in the Manchester district at present, at once, would be impossible. It must be a work of time to change the capacities of boilers, to prevent the forcing fires, double loading of engines, and other manifest evils. These were evils which could be abated only by the zealous concurrence of proprietors of steam-engines themselves; but it was to be hoped that a few striking examples of great economy and perfect combustion would have considerable effect in directing the attention of these parties to a due consideration of their own interest and of the public welfare. The report then went into a minute description of the relative proportions of furnaces, boilers, flues, and chimneys in this and other districts. But as the experiments are to be shortly renewed, and the inquiry extended for a future report, we omit the details. The general average of the consumption of coal in the Manchester district appeared to be 10·55lb. per horse-power per hour. That this was far beyond what it ought to be, was exhibited by the fact, that the average consumption in the best Cornish engines was only 2½lb. per hour—something less than one-fourth of the amount in this neighbourhood. The report proceeded to detail the results of some experiments on the comparative consumption of coals in a furnace to which Mr. Williams's apparatus for the consumption of smoke had been applied, when that apparatus was at work, and when it was thrown out of use. The result was, that the average consumption with the apparatus at work was 276lb. per hour, and, with the air-passages effectually closed, 308½lb. per hour—showing a difference of 32½lb. per hour in favour of Mr. Williams's plan, or a saving of rather more than 10 per cent. The report stated, in conclusion, that there could not be the slightest doubt about the practicability of abating the nuisance of smoke, so much complained of in this and other districts.

Mr. Williams wished to shew that the question of the prevention of smoke was purely a chemical one, and that therefore the boiler, &c., should not be taken into account in the inquiry. And some one complained that it was not fair to other patentees that so much should be said on one patent. By several patents, he said, he could produce the same results as with that of Mr. Williams.

Mr. Fairbairn stated that the object of his report was not the prevention of smoke, but to inquire into the present state of engines. With regard to the mixing up the boiler in the investigation, he acknowledged there was a difference between generating heat and generating steam; but that it would be difficult in practice to separate them, and that therefore they must be taken together in any inquiry of this kind.

Prof. Willis put an end to the conversation, by suggesting that the whole of the papers on this subject should first be read, and that the general discussion should follow.

This was adopted. Mr. Juckes exhibited and explained a model of his new furnace. It

consists mainly of a series of fire-bars, combined and arranged as an endless chain over two moving barrels at either end of the furnace. This chain, forming of course the furnace, is put in gear and moved on slowly by the engine, at about a foot in twenty minutes. The fire-bars extend beyond the front of the furnace; and in these outer bars, as in a hopper, the coal is placed, which is gauged down to the requisite thickness by a vertically sliding door. Passing thus gradually into combustion, and with a full and sufficient supply of atmospheric air, perfect combustion is said to be obtained, and the full amount of heating effects applied. Specimens of the scoria, or clinkers, thrown off by the revolution of the grate at the farther end were exhibited. They strongly supported the assertion of thorough combustion; they were very compact in texture, and almost metallic in appearance. No poker is ever necessary; the coal passes into the furnace on the endless chain, and out again as clinker by the revolving motion. The furnace has been in use at Mr. Bird's saw-mills, Wapping, we believe, for two months. This furnace of 12 superficial feet does considerably more work than the one of 18 feet that it superseded; and not a particle of smoke can be detected as coming from the chimney. The old consumption was stated to have been about 1 ton of coal and 1 ton of wood and sawdust per day. The present, with extended results, 12 cwt. of coals, and this even refuse coal, for the smallest can be thus most advantageously burned.

Sir I. Brunel had seen the furnace in operation, and bore highly favourable testimony to its practical value.

Mr. J. Smith, in attempting to explain his improved steam-boiler on the principle of the currents of the ocean, was called to order by Mr. John Taylor; and indeed was so interrupted throughout, in consequence of having certainly mixed up much extraneous matter, that all that we could glean was, that he proposed to employ two furnaces; and that the gaseous products of the one should be conducted through extended flues to the heated chamber of the other, and that there the gaseous products should be thoroughly mixed with atmospheric air and utilised; and that either furnace should be cooled alternately. By this method it appeared that thorough combustion was obtained, and of course the maximum of heating effects.

Mr. Williams then read an essay on the prevention of smoke, confining his remarks to the chemical question.

There can be no doubt, as indeed it was agreed on all sides, that the prevention of smoke is practicable. There are, however, we believe, no less than 42 patents to accomplish this desirable end, some of them simple, as bearing only on, and contributing to, perfect combustion; others more complicated, involving mechanical arrangements and questions of flues, boilers, chimneys, &c. The mixing up these two points produced somewhat of confusion, it appeared to us, in the discussion. If, as in the case of Mr. Fairbairn's report, this inquiry be as to the present state of engines, then, undoubtedly, the whole of the mechanical arrangements,—boilers, flues, &c.,—have been very rightly taken into consideration, and the valuable results will, we think, tend to the application of Mr. Williams' apparatus; for in his invention, simplicity and scientific perfection appear combined. The whole effects of combustion are obtained, and it seems to us to require very little mechanical ingenuity to utilise

them. Several present took part in the discussion, which was animated and interesting, but which, to detail at length, would occupy too much of our time and space.

The afternoon of Friday was diversified by a promenade in the Botanical and Horticultural Gardens, which are pleasantly laid out, and about two miles from the town. There was a good exhibition of flowers, vegetables, and fruits; and in the evening a *soirée* in a noble suite of rooms formed by uniting the Royal Institution with the Athenæum by a temporary communication. Both were fully attended by residents and strangers, and all, particularly the latter, were gratified by the view of philosophical instruments, collections of natural history, manufactured products, and a series of Raphael tapestries, for which the Cartoons were designed.

At the close, an indescribable confusion occurred in the resumption of hats left in the lobby; and lucky were they who carried theirs fashionably in their hands, and the members of the Society of Friends, who kept theirs upon their heads.

PARIS LETTER.

Paris, July 1, 1842.

Academy of Sciences: sitting of June 27.—M. Dutochet communicated the result of his observations on the motive power exerted on the surface of several liquids, as much by the influence of the vapour of certain substances as by their immediate contact. It is known that light bodies placed on the surface of water or of mercury are repelled to a distance by the vapour of camphor, of alcohol, of ether, of essential oils, &c. This phenomenon is generally attributed to the impulse which results from the rapid expansion of the vapour, which blows on the light body and thus determines its dispersion. M. Dutochet's observations do not allow this explanation; since this repulsion can at will be, by certain conditions, changed into attraction. He attributes the motion to a modification of the capillary force, to which he has given the name of *epipole force* (see *Lit. Gaz.* 1314).

M. Pissis addressed a memoir on the geological position of the soil of the southern part of Brazil, and the upheavings which at different epochs have changed the outline of the country. This work is the result of five years' survey, and is divided into two parts: the first is devoted to the examination of the composition of the strata; the second comprises the changes of their position and direction. The country explored by M. Pissis is situated between the twelfth and twenty-seventh degrees of south latitude, and embraces the space contained between Parana, the St. Francis, and the sea.

M. Warden transmitted the following amount of population of the United States, according to the census by act of congress: inhabitants, 17,068,666; people of colour, free, 386,235; slaves, 2,487,113.

M. Perrolet forwarded meteorological observations made by him at Cayenne, at Martinique, and at Guadeloupe.

Several works, French and English, were received.

LITERARY AND LEARNED.

CAMBRIDGE INSTALLATION.

(From our own Correspondent.)

Cambridge, July 6th, 1842.

With every arrangement judiciously made, and all that foresight could provide, the Cambridge Installation has proved a failure; gay parties, gay concerts, fireworks, odes, music,

all stopped or deteriorated by the ridiculous attempt on the queen's quiet. The Duke of Wellington and Lord Lyndhurst forced back to town, and breakfasts, dinners, and suppers, losing most of their importance from their absence; the people grumbling and disappointed, and asking five times the value of every commodity: there is little to report. The Duke of Northumberland has been well received and well entertained, and appears to be a very popular chancellor. The music, under the direction of Prof. Walmsley, has been of a high character, and the professionals from town, selected with much judgment, have given great satisfaction to the few and select audiences that have been to hear them. The ball at the Fitzwilliam Museum (now nearly completed, and a wondrous ornament to Cambridge), has gone off with greater éclat, and, except Mr. Batty's Circus, seems to have been the most popular place of entertainment. Indeed, the people have run a great deal more after the horses than the visitors, and would be glad to have the Circus here instead of at White Conduit Gardens, where it is to be till Astley's is rebuilt.

ASSOS.*

The ruins of the high-seated acropolis of Assos, described from a distance by the passing voyager, present a fine object, mournfully reminding him of the desolation befallen the cities of an ancient people, who, unlike the modern lords of the lesser Asia, knew how to improve in peace what they had won in war.

We landed at a little pier within which some Greek fishermen, whose cottages are sheltered by the cliff, keep their caiques; but a portion of the old mole is still visible. The city-hill rises abruptly from the beach, and a goat-path now leads up to the first plateau. Arrived there, we found ourselves at once on antiquarian ground, but not yet within the walls. To our right we beheld considerable remains of a well-built theatre, and to our left the commencement of a cemetery with many soro; while only a few yards from us, and on the probable site of a temple, lay several large stones, some of them inscribed. Of these last, seven, long and squared, had belonged to architraves, and bore inscriptions in a large character. Four were of equal dimensions, and their letters of one alphabet. The other three, similar to one another, and slightly differing from the first in point of size, exhibited in their legends the less angular character represented by the crescent-shaped sigma. But neither set can be referred to a period earlier than the conquest of the country by the Romans. For in the first we read the name Caesar, and in the second the Latin word "patronus." Besides, they are incomplete.

The inscriptions on the set of four inform us of the order and office of the priest, who probably was their author. They are just as I copied them, with the exception of the second, where I substituted a Δ for an Α. Perhaps the Ν of the third should be exchanged for a Α. The connected sense would then be, "Who both hereditary basileus and priest of the Homolian Jove," &c.

ΟΣΚΑΙΝΑΠΤΙΟΣΒΑΣΙΛΕΥΣ
ΚΑΙΠΕΡΥΣΤΟΤΑΙΟΣΤ
ΟΤΟΜΟΝΟΤΚΑΙΓΤΜ
ΕΟΥΚΑΙΣΑΡΟΣΟΔΕΑΤ

The set of three.

ΙΟΚΑΙΑΣΙΑΘΕΙΣΙΝΙ
ΝΤΑΤΤΟΤΗΘΙΟΕ
ΑΙΠΑΤΡΟΝΟΕΤΗΣ

* From the note-book of a recent traveller: see *L. G.* No. 1325, pp. 405, 6.

The eighth and last—a fragment of some compliment to a Cæsar Augustus—I found in the same place. The stone on which it is preserved is broader than the others.

ΚΑΙΣΑΡΙΣΕΒΑΣΤΩΙΚΑΙΤΩΙΑ

These are the only graven records that it was my lot to discover at Assos. The long stones above mentioned are such as masons would gladly have for lintels of wide doorways. The missing ones, whole, or broken in halves, may have been so employed in the construction of habitations in the village of Beirami—the mean successor of the ancient city. My visit was of too short duration to admit of any inspection of the dwelling-houses; but, had I had time to spare for that purpose, the prejudices of their occupants—the village community being exclusively Turkish—would have interfered materially with my search.

Some of the *soroi* are ornamented with heads, wreaths, festoons, &c. Such is often the case when inscriptions are wanting; and here I could discover no “prating gravestones”—not a word to offend even the severe eye of a Lycurgus.

Passing under a gateway, which is tolerably perfect, and flanked by considerable portions of the broad city-wall, we proceeded by a rugged way to the acropolis. It was a fortified crag, not commanded by other heights. Where requisite, the rock was scarped, and the defences were completed with a high wall connecting a series of square towers. Of these the greater part of two remains. One that the engineers of Assos reared on a plateau, and at the verge of a precipice, the Mussulmans have converted into a mosque. The façade is ornamented with some marble, and a pair of pillars that once supported their part of a more regular structure. The second tower must have had a communication with the first by a gallery along the wall; for it was built without a gateway, and no aperture appears within less than twenty feet of its base.

The prospect seaward and landward from this citadel is extensive, and the ruins may be viewed very advantageously from its higher point. It was provided with a capacious oblong cistern. The deep well in the centre, to which a flight of steps descend, is still supplied with water; but the present inhabitants use one that is easier of access. Where the hill is steepest toward the sea, some tasteful architect placed a circular colonnade—a diadem for its lofty brow. To the spectator sailing up the Gulf of Adramyttium this once appeared the chief ornament of the acropolis. The bases and capitals of several granite columns remain. They are of the Doric order. The capitals lie on their edges, and are disposed, at regular intervals, in a segment of a circle within, and concentric with, that formed by the bases. Only two or three *frusta* of the shafts are left. These, probably, are the ruins of a temple, which fell by some sudden shock.

I would gladly have prolonged my visit to Assos. The general effect of the ruins is very striking. The acropolis, the city-wall and gateway, the theatre, and the *soros*—spread field of the dead, are all remarkable features.

G. R. L.

FINE ARTS.

THE WILKIE STATUE.

ON Saturday the committee, in whom the election of the artist to execute this statue was vested, met at the Thatched House, Sir R. Peel in the chair. A sub-committee was appointed, of eight or ten persons of rank and eminent

artists, to advise with and assist the sculptor to whom the work should be entrusted. The following names of candidates were proposed: Baily, Campbell, Joseph, Lough, Marshall, Watson, and Weekes. The Bishop of Llandaff made an effort to get the name of Behnes added, who, through some mistake in regard to the timely formality of application, had been accidentally excluded; but the committee preferred a strict adherence to the letter of the resolution of the preceding meeting, when “it was moved by William Jerdan, Esq., and seconded by the Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of Llandaff—

“That in order to simplify the proceedings at the adjourned meeting, the name of no artist shall be proposed, unless the same has been intimated by letter on or before Saturday, the 25th inst., to the secretaries of the committee, who shall give full notice to every member of the names proposed.”

A very satisfactory explanation was given by Mr. Sturch of Mr. Baily's conduct, in reference to a vote of condolence to Miss Wilkie from the Royal Academy, which had been impugned as rendering him ineligible for the present competition. Sir Peter Laurie then pointed out two modes of determining the election—1st, by reducing the candidates to two, and then balloting between them; or, 2dly, balloting for the whole at once. The latter mode was voted to be adopted; and after some discussion, it was farther agreed, that if any one artist had an absolute majority in the whole number, that should decide the question in his favour; and if not, the two (or three, in case of equality in the second votes) should be put up again. On the motion of Sir Charles Forbes, whose honest opposition to secret voting carried the meeting into a genuine Irish decision, it was carried that every vote should be signed by the name of the voter!! So much for the ballot, previously agreed upon!!—Scrutineers were appointed; and on opening the box, they declared that the choice had fallen on Mr. Joseph, who had an absolute majority of 25 votes out of 48. Some explanations ensued relative to the rejection of certain votes, and a slight error in the numbers announced; but as these did not affect the conclusion, Mr. Joseph achieved the victory. It is but justice to him and his rivals—with some of whom, in the higher walks of art, he would hardly venture to compare himself—to state, that he produced peculiar claims on this occasion, in a bust of Wilkie, much appreciated as a likeness by his family and friends, and by sending in a model of the proposed statue, sitting with a roll for drawing on, and pencil in hand, of very considerable merit. Messrs. Baily and Lough offered nothing but their names, and could hardly be said to be competitors: so that it is not strange that they had very few votes. Neither had Campbell any model; but he obtained no fewer than thirteen votes. Messrs. Weekes, Watson, and Marshall had each small whole-length figures in the room; and the pedestal of that of Mr. Watson was enriched with *relieufs* of Wilkie's most celebrated paintings—John Knox preaching, the Rent-Day, and another.

Of the subscription, 1500*l.* has been realised: and we hope soon to see a work of art in the National Gallery worthy of the country and of the distinguished individual whose living appearance among his admiring contemporaries it is meant to perpetuate in honour to his memory.

* It is to be regretted that the Premier had been obliged to leave the chair before this decision was made; for it must have suggested to him that he might readily concede the vote by ballot to its advocates, only excluding those who could not write their names, and the making of whose marks could not be so certain a test of right and identity!!

The late John Constable.—It is gratifying to the memory of departed genius to see announced for publication “Selections from the Letters and other Papers of the late John Constable, R.A., comprising notes of his Lectures on the History of Landscape-Painting. Arranged and connected, with a sketch of his life, by C. R. Leslie, R.A., and interspersed with mezzotinto engravings, by D. Lucas, from the pictures of Mr. Constable, originally intended to form a work entitled *English Landscape.*” The number of copies printed is to be limited to one hundred and fifty, and thus the impressions of the engravings on steel will all be equal to proofs. We are well pleased too to see this task undertaken by an artist so competent to do it justice as Mr. Leslie; and anticipate a volume not only of artistical beauty, but of great literary interest, as the correspondence, we believe, is genuine, and was never intended for the public eye.

Georgione.—There is at present on view, among Mr. Atherstone's pictures in the Italian and Flemish Gallery, Pall Mall, a fine Bacchanalian festa by Georgione, and a very splendid example of that master's style and colouring. The festive group feasting, on the foreground, is rich in tone and admirable in arrangement; the background is a glorious landscape, as fresh in its green and other tints as when it grew in natural luxuriance from the easel of the artist. The god is descending with a small circle of attendants from the heights; and on the left is a nude female figure brilliantly coloured. But what adds much to the interest of this composition is the circumstance that, in removing the painted surface to be relined, in consequence of its being cracked in several places, the original design was found entire on the rotting canvass beneath. Thus we have the first ideas of Georgione, and can compare them with his finished performance. The alterations are considerable, and the reasons for making most of them so striking as to afford a valuable study in the arts.

Redcliffe Church, Bristol.—We are rejoiced to learn that this church, so rich in antiquarian interest and literary associations, is about to be surveyed and reported on, with a view to its restoration and improvement. Mr. Britton and Mr. Hosking are engaged in this laudable design; and the removal of houses which surrounded and marred the view of the sacred edifice have already opened its noble architectural beauties to sight. Its history, by Mr. Britton, must be familiar to readers; and, aided by the professor of architecture, &c., in King's College, the task of renovation could not be placed in more able hands. It is, further, a gratifying proof of the reviving energy and taste of this great commercial city; and now we trust we may anticipate the realisation of Chatterton's Rowleian eulogy, that Redcliffe Church will once more become

The pride of Bristowe and the western lands.

ROYAL ACADEMY.

No. 213. *Reading the Letter.* T. Clater.—A subject from Mrs. Hall's “Sketches of Irish Character,” in which the artist, with his usual skill, has cleverly embodied the ideas of the author. The blushing Anty's humorous distress at being unable to decipher the letter, for the explanation of which she is obliged to refer to Bany the Beast, tells the story well, and deserves to be engraved to illustrate it.

No. 229. *A Contest of the Lyre and the Pipe in the Valley of Tempé.* F. Danby, A.—We

hardly know what to say of this poetical canvass, so full as it is of beauties and defects. We might exclaim, in the language of the tragedy, "So foul and fair a day I have not seen."

The subject is finely treated; and all the mythological beings who belong to the lovely and gorgeous valley are conceived with genius, happily grouped, and expressive in action. But the colouring of the flesh is sadly out of tone, without one hue of nature, which detracts marvellously from the pleasure to be derived from a picture of this kind.

No. 217. *Portrait of Sir Frederick Pollock*. S. Lawrence.—Hung too high to be accurately seen, though perhaps at a proper distance from the eye; for though the likeness is good, the painting does not appear to be first-rate, or finished enough for a nearer inspection. High as it is, and high as the original deserves to be in his profession, we are inclined to hope and believe that his younger brother, the general-in-chief in Afghanistan, will speedily achieve yet higher honours and a nobler name. Among the popular glories which make the strength of England, it is not one of the least to see great abilities and talents raising her sons from the middle ranks to the top preferments of the most difficult walks of life, where they must meet in competition with every description of human energy and intellect, and every class of exalted rivalry.

No. 259. *Portrait of the Lord Mayor, Sir J. Pirie*. By Mrs. Pearson.—An excellent likeness, and executed with Mrs. Pearson's well-known taste and fidelity. In a different line from the foregoing, we have here another example what steadiness, ability, perseverance, and worth, can do for a deserving individual in this commercial country.

No. 267. *Charles I. receiving Instructions in Drawing from Rubens, whilst sketching the Portraits of his Queen and Child*. S. West.—A historical anecdote made for the painter, and treated in an artist-like and interesting manner by Mr. West.

No. 278. *The Departure of Charles II. from Bentley in Staffordshire, the house of Col. Lane*. C. Landseer, A.—We have no painter who handles history with more skill than Charles Landseer. His transcripts of the passages he chooses for illustration are ever distinguished for truth and character; and in the present instance, we think, he has rather surpassed than fallen short of any of his former admired performances. The disguised party on horseback, taking their departure from the abode of the loyal Colonel Lane, who, with his aged wife, is bidding them anxiously farewell,—is excellently disposed. Lord Wilmot leads the way with his hawk and spaniel; whilst the king, shrouded in a rustic dress, rides before the charming Miss Lane, his guardian angel and preserver. Every one of the persons engaged in this remarkable drama is disposed with due regard to the circumstances; and the heroine adds much to the entirely pleasing impression which is made by the graphic scene.

No. 285. *Portrait of W. Cunningham, Esq. J. Linnell*.—Something original.

No. 308. *Sir C. Napier*. J. Simpson.—The commodore himself in propria persona, K.C.B. and M.P.

No. 327. *A Deserted Mansion—return of its absentee owner*. J. J. Chalon, R.A.—A pretty picture; but there is no desertion visible.

No. 321. *Admonition*. F. Stone.—Two females conceived with Mr. Stone's acknowledged taste; we think sketchy, and hardly finished enough for exhibition among more laboured works.

(To be continued.)

SKETCHES OF SOCIETY.

The decision of the Committee in favour of visiting Cork, in preference to York, next year (after the 10th of August, when the assizes will be over), was perhaps a little influenced by the two lines of argument adopted by the advocates for either city. Mr. Wellbeloved, the Yorkist, did not approve the harmony of his euphonious name; for he told the Association that York, where it was cradled, entertained the idea that since it had flown from its mother's breast, it had perhaps been overfed; and she was therefore anxious to bring it to intellectual pap and physical starvation; whereas the Corkites spoke of wine and wassail, of no tee-totalism, of drawing their namesakes from those bottle-necks in which they had long reposed, and of other creature-comforts abjured by the (not) Wellbeloved creed. It soon became clear that the voters in their second childhood, anxious for a return to mamma's bosom, were in a considerable minority, and Cork had it as sound as a Roach. It was also much in its favour that the mayor, on this occasion, had all the power of a Lyon.

When Sir M. I. Brunel first visited Manchester, forty years ago, hand-weaving was the general occupation of the inhabitants; and those who employed any small machinery in aid of their labours, wrought them almost secretly in garrets, to avoid having their windows smashed by the mob. Indeed, it is only about ninety years since manufacturing may be said to have established itself here. How vast the increase!

Among the prominent feelings let out during the meeting, it was painful to observe a jealousy, amounting almost to a hatred, of landed proprietors, which widely pervades the ranks of the manufacturing classes. They could hardly speak of the owners of the soil without rancour. Of course there are exceptions to this asperity.

Lord F. Egerton sacrificed a little to this popular anti-corn-law antipathy, when he proclaimed himself a carrier of goods (on the Bridgewater canal), and a trader, like the Manchester auditory he was addressing. Still he appeared as a single Corinthian capital on a shaft as lofty as the chimneys around, bespeaking the monied nobility of the Lords of Cotton and Smoke.

The grand dinner on Saturday was, we believe, plentiful, though rendered less orderly by the company taking their seats before it was placed on the table; and thus exposing much intended for the Bigendians to be intercepted *in transitu* by those at the lower end of the hall. Among the wines indicated on the card, we found "Buselles," meant, we believe, for Bucellas, but pronounced with a regular Manchester or Lancashire breadth, in a style fit for the bumper round when the Bishop of Norwich gave the toast of "The Ladies."

Even in the distresses of this locality there is an occasional burst of the comic. A jolly *bon-vivant* manufacturer, who had prospered and enjoyed the fat of the land to the utmost of his capacity, suffered loss after loss, and was compelled to call his creditors together. The meeting, as is rather usual in such instances, was not in the best of tempers, and much grumbling and many searching questions ensued. In the midst of this unpleasant moil, the inward bowels of the unfortunate set up that ventriloquial noise which it is so disagreeable to hear and so impossible to control. He tried every means to procure quiet, but in vain; till at last, his patience exhausted, he struck his abdomen a smart coup, and exclaimed, "Dang it, hold there! I owe thee nothing!"

Among the productions of art in the Exhibition Rooms, a whole-length group of three

gentlemen, taken by Mr. Fox Talbot by his calotint process, was the most striking thing we have seen in this class. Near it hung a magnificent collection of Roberts' drawings in the Holy Land, lent by the noble president. Some admirable specimens of Wilkie were contributed by Mr. Grundy, whose gallery of paintings and engravings in Manchester is about the finest we ever saw; and his portfolio of Wilkies very rich and interesting. Nor were the works of Liversage, a native and ornament of the place, the least attractive of these performances. His truth and finish are truly admirable, and the sight of a collection of his pictures caused a deeper regret than ever for his premature loss. Of his studies, we were told, by a friend and companion, that they were the most careful that could be made. On one occasion, when he wanted a model of deformity, he sent his help to a factory with instructions to bring him the worst pair of legs he could find among the cripples, and a subject sufficiently crooked was procured. Him the artist placed on a raised platform, without explanation of his purpose, and began to twist him into the position he wished. But at that time the dread of Burking was abroad, and the terrified wretch took it into his head that the easel and scraper, &c. were instruments of assassination. He leapt from his pedestal with a scream, bolted through the window, and roared murder along the street. The astonished Liversage was almost sacrificed by the mistaken fury of the populace, and never saw this sinner more; for never did cripple run so fast.

Of railroad-speed we heard the following particulars from an eminent maker of engines. A new one was sent to be tried on the Manchester and Birmingham line, and, when put in motion, the engineer said he thought it went stiffly. It was, however, put to its speed, and went twenty-four miles in nineteen minutes. There were three stoppages of about a minute each, and a curve was slowly performed, so that a portion of the transit could not be calculated at less than a hundred miles an hour! There were three persons on the engine and tender.

THE DRAMA.

The dramatic writers, as well as all authors connected with the general literature of the country, are much indebted to Lord Mahon and Mr. Gally Knight for their parliamentary effort on behalf of dramatists. It is true that the present state of political and public business has prevented the immediate application of a remedy to the gross inconsistencies and evils acknowledged to pervade the whole system connected with the stage; but we feel certain that the foundations have been laid for important reforms and improvements in the next session of the legislature.

Stabat Mater.—We were present on Wednesday at the first representation of Rossini's celebrated *Stabat Mater*, at Her Majesty's Theatre. The numerous beauties of this splendid oratorio (executed by the combination of rare talent which this theatre can command) seemed to be thoroughly appreciated by the society its reputed merits and unequalled success in Paris had caused to assemble at the Opera House. To particularise its chief attractions would be going beyond our limits. It combines the light and graceful charm of the modern with the classic severity of the ancient school. The unrivalled Rubini sung the air allotted to him as he alone can sing; and obtained a rapturous encore. The same compliment was accorded to Mad. Persiani's air, to the two quartettes, and

to the splendid chorus with Lablache. The pure and fresh voices of Mdle. Molteni and Signor Guasco gave a charming effect to the pieces in which they sang; and Ronconi, though not so effective, well sustained the high reputation he has so deservedly acquired.*

Rachel and Bouffe have both concluded their London engagements this week; with the performances of the latter last evening the French theatre closed its season: we trust a profitable one,—for the public owes much to the enterprise of Mr. Mitchell, in making it altogether worthy of popularity and patronage.

English Opera.—The *Lone Hut*, a drama in two acts, and with some pretty Swiss scenery, was produced here, with success, on Monday. It is one of those pleasing compositions in which an interest is created for youth and beauty; and the *finale* rewards all the anxieties of the audience with poetic justice and scenic effect.

Vauxhall Gardens opened on Wednesday with, strange to say, favourable weather and a pretty sprinkling of company, *certainly*, not very full, and very miscellaneous, especially in moustached and tufted foreigners, and foreign damsels of flashy costume. The admission, 3s., kept out a lower rabble; and as you have to pay also for convenient galleries to see the horsemanship and the fireworks, the burning of Hamburg inclusive, the charge for the entertainments provided is quite high enough. The equestrian exercises are the same as at the Circus, and prolonged till they tire. The orchestra is not the most captivating, and the burning of Hamburg but a poor affair, coming off after midnight. The fall of houses is represented by the rolling down of painted calico or canvass webs; but there are plenty of red and blue lights glaring on the architectural shapes—a bridge, a bark as it were on fire, scenic cannon, engines, &c., and people running about in distress, mobs, noise, confusion, and Ducrow's troop riding in and out in all the panoply of feathered glory. Some good fireworks concluded the spectacle, and sent such as were hungry, and could afford it, to their small chickens, thin ham, and arrack or benzoin punch.

Willis's Rooms.—Concerts, although numerous throughout the season, and desirably so, are yet so much alike as not to require any lengthened detailed notice. Thus we select generally any novelties of performers of merit to comment on, or the efforts of the *bénéficiaires* to applaud and recommend. In the instance of Miss Turner's and Mr. Gear's concert on Tuesday evening, we can with great pleasure and justice take the latter course, and especially praise the singing of the duet, "Spring is long since o'er," by Miss Turner and her sister.

VARIETIES.

Adelaide Gallery.—On Saturday evening last there was a conversazione in the Adelaide Gallery, where music, vocal and instrumental, the laughing gas, and other popular administrations, were added to the numerous attractions of the place in order to gratify the visitors. Refreshments were also served out; and during our short stay two or three hundred of them seemed to be enjoying the various treat with the utmost satisfaction.

Earthquake in Cumberland.—The *Carlisle Pa-*

triot states that a smart shock of earthquake was felt at Carlisle and the neighbourhood on the 21st ult.

Floating Breakwater.—Capt. Taylor's invention of a floating breakwater, so much discussed at the Plymouth meeting of the British Association, has so far received the sanction of parliament, that a bill for a National Floating Breakwater Company has been read a third time in the House of Commons.

Photography.—*Beard v. Claudet.*—A recent decision in this case has declared the intention of the parties in the deed of license, granted by Daguerre to Claudet, to have been that the repurchase of the defendant's license was compulsory only to Daguerre, and that the proviso was inserted for the benefit of the defendant, and was not meant compulsory upon him. So far, therefore, now the defendant Claudet may continue to act under his license, and relinquish it only at will.

Curious Error.—In *Chambers's Journal*, No. 539, there is a narrative of a tour on the Continent, which states that when at Vevay the author saw the monuments of the English exiles Ludlow and Broughton. A passage in the epitaph of the latter he transcribes and translates thus: "Dignatusque etiam fuit sententiam Regis regum proferri, quam ob causam expulsus patria, sua." &c.—"For the cause of the King of kings he was honoured with exile from his country," &c. Never was a passage so vitiated, and an allusion so completely missed. There is no such Latin word as *proferri*, which occurs in the epitaph as transcribed by Chambers. He seems to have had *proferre* in his eye, but even this is not the word that he saw. In Addison's travels the epitaphs of Ludlow and Broughton are given at full length, and of course accurately; and here, instead of the word *proferri*, there is *proferri*. The translation of the passage then is: "He was also honoured to pronounce a sentence of the King of kings, for which cause he was expelled from his native country," &c. There is here an allusion to the life of Broughton. He was appointed secretary to the court that condemned Charles I. and in this capacity it became his duty to read aloud the sentence passed against that monarch,—a sentence here termed a judgment of the King of kings. That he did so is expressly mentioned by Ludlow, vol. i., p. 282. For this cause Broughton was obliged to leave England and die an exile at Vevay.—*Pertshire Courier.*

The Earl of Leicester, better known as Mr. Coke of Norfolk, died last week, at a very advanced age. He was the author of many tracts on agricultural subjects.

M. Sismondi, the eminent historian, died on the 25th ult., at his residence near Geneva, aged sixty-nine.

M. D'Abadie, the Abyssinian traveller, has been compelled by bad health to relinquish his researches.

Fanny Elster is announced as on her way to perform in the city of Mexico, as the Americans term it, "on her own hook." She was offered 24,000 dollars for twelve nights, and asked 28,000, which being refused, she resolved to venture on her own account, and had lithographed 100,000 tickets to take with her on the spot.

Hong Kong.—*Progress of this new British Settlement.*—The *Canton Register* announces by advertisement an establishment at Hong Kong for cleaning ladies' straw-bonnets.

The Moon uninhabited.—An old lady, who had been reading the famous moon-story very attentively, remarked with emphasis, that the

idea of the moon's being inhabited was incredible to believe; "For," said she, "what becomes of the people in the new moon, when there is nothing left of it but a little streak?"—*Bradford Herald.*

EPITAPHIUM

In caenam amatum, quæ obilit æonio confecta, 10 Ap. 1842.
Cespitæ tecta, canum hic dulcissima Fannia dormit;
Lætæ expas animi, fida, decora, placent.
Conciliare jocos omnes, offendere nulli,
Hæc natura illi blandula dona dedit.
Vite summa brevis canibus datur; ægerat annos
Octo bis; tamen hæc ægra senecta tulit.
Amisam quæ queritur frustra miserabile carmen;
Terque quaterque mihi Fannia flenda, vale!

LITERARY NOVELTIES.

In the Press.—An historical and descriptive Account of the Parish of Richmond, by J. Britton, F.S.A., to form part of Brayley's new Topographical History of Surrey.

Preparing for publication (by subscription), *Memoirs of Claude Brousson, Doctor of Laws, &c.*, who was broken on the Wheel at Montpellier, A.D. 1698; by H. S. Baynes.

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

Transactions of the Zoological Society of London, Vol. III. Part 1, 4to, coloured, 14s.—Transactions of the Royal Institute of British Architects of London, Vol. 1, Part 2, 4to, 11. 4s.—The Classified Spelling-Book, 12mo, 2s.—A Summary of French Grammar for the Use of the Gentlemen Cadets at Sandhurst, by H. Marillier, 3d edit, 12mo, 3s. 6d.—The Gospel of St. Matthew, a new edition, from the French of Pasquier Quesnel, 12mo, 6s.—The Waverley Novels, Vol. III. royal 8vo, 20s.—The Climate of the South of Devon, by T. chapter, M.D., post 8vo, 7s. 6d.—A Treatise on the Irritation of the Spinal Nerves, by Evans Riadore, post 8vo, 5s. 6d.—A Course of Historical and Chronological Instruction, by W. E. Bickmore, post 8vo, 10s. 6d.—Tracts of the Anglican Fathers, 4 vols. 8vo, 2d edit. 36s.—Two dangerous Diseases of England, Consumption and Apoplexy, by Rowland East, 12mo, 5s.—The General Orders of the Poor-Law Commissioners, with an Analytical Index, post 8vo, 7s.—Britain; a Poem, and Miscellaneous Pieces, by James Green, 12mo, 3s.—State Trials, by N. T. Moile, Esq., 2d edit, 12mo, 10s. 6d.—Practical Introduction to the Study of the German Language, by Heinrich Apel, 12mo, 5s. 6d.—Parochial Psalmist, edited by the Rev. John Fred. Lloyd, 12mo, 5s. 6d.—The Palfrey; a Love Story of Old Times, by Leigh Hunt, 8vo, second, 5s.—The Salamandrine; or, Love and Immortality, by Charles Mackay, post 8vo, sewed, 5s.—Hand-Book for Switzerland and Savoy, 2d edit. fcp. 10s.—Who is to Blame? or, a cursory Review of American Apology for American Accession to Negro Slavery, by James Graham, Esq., 8vo, 3s. 6d.—A Memoir of India and Afghanistan, by J. Harlan, post 8vo, 6s.

METEOROLOGICAL JOURNAL, 1842.

June.	Thermometer.	Barometer.
Thursday . . . 23	From 46 to 68	29.79 . . 29.74
Friday 24	48 . . 67	29.65 . . 29.64
Saturday . . . 25	46 . . 64	29.83 . . 29.57
Sunday 26	51 . . 68	29.63 . . 29.89
Monday 27	44 . . 68	30.08 . . 30.29
Tuesday . . . 28	49 . . 73	30.21 . . 30.12
Wednesday . 29	51 . . 74	30.03 . . 30.00

Wind S.W., except on the 27th, when N.W. and W. From the 23d to the 26th, changeable, with showers; since, generally clear. Rain fallen, .185 of an inch.
Latitude, 51° 37' 32" north.
Longitude, 3 51 west of Greenwich.
Edmonton. CHARLES HENRY ADAMS.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

The Blind Fidler.—The sketch of the Blind Fidler in the city, near the site where the Exchange formerly stood, is very well written and characteristic; but we are not aware for what purpose a copy has been sent to us. If to promote the cause of charity towards a deserving street-Orpheus, we are happy to call notice to the design, and add our good wishes to the effort of the clever and benevolent author of this paper—neatly printed, and signed "Curio." His picture of a waiter is capital.

We will attend to Mr. Bain's letter in our next. We have this week made a review of a miscellaneous matter as light a selection as possible, in order to relieve the drier, however instructive, details of science.
ERRATUM.—P. 450, col. 1, line 10, for magnetic stones, read storms.

ADVERTISEMENTS. MISCELLANEOUS.

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for which no call shall take place within six months of each other;
and no call at any time exceed 1s. per Share; at the same time it
is cordially expected, that the call of 1s. per Share, on Allotment,
will prove amply sufficient to secure the object for which the Com-
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and other officers connected with that gigantic Literary Power—the
Public Press. The said Tenth to be paid to the "Literary Fund So-
ciety," or such other body as the Directors may think fit. In the
event of the Company, two Directors and one Auditor will be requested of that
society, to act in conjunction with those of the Company, to see the
affairs of the Company carried out in this respect.

Within one month after the Allotment of Shares, a General Meeting
of the Shareholders will be called, to elect three Directors and one
Auditor, to act with the Directors and Auditors who may previously
have accepted of office; so that the Shareholders in this Company
may not, as in most new companies, be shut out from all control
over their affairs for five years after the formation of the Company.
Three Directors and one Auditor to retire annually, being eligible
for re-election.

The accounts of the Company to be audited at the close of every
year.
As an illustration of the amount required to be paid up, and the
great profits which the Shareholders have reaped from similar in-
stitutions, and to show not merely the safety, but the advantages to be
derived from investments of the kind, the attention of capitalists and
others is directed to the following Table:

Shares.	Amount paid up.	Price per Share.	Profit per Share.
---------	--------------------	---------------------	----------------------

Portland	£100	£10	£20
National	100	10	29
Law	100	10	19
Rail Life	20	2	7
New Fire Office	100	1	16
Union	100	20	103

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of 50 per Cent for the Five years up to Christmas last, will be pay-
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Number 15 South Molton Street, in the Parish of Saint George, Han-

over Square, in the County of Middlesex, at the Literary Gazette Office,

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